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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Tuesday, November 18, 2014



State Of Emergency

Demonstrators role-play as police and protesters during an event to mark 100 days since Michael Brown was fatally shot by a police officer, in University City, Mo., Nov. 16, 2014. Missouri's governor declared a state of emergency Monday and activated the National Guard state militia ahead of a grand jury decision about whether a white police officer will be charged in the fatal shooting of an unarmed black 18-year-old in the St. Louis suburb of Ferguson.

(Whitney Curtis/The New York Times)

Missouri's Governor Activates National Guard

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Aid worker's parents: Son believed in good

DYLAN LOVAN
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The parents of an American aid worker who was beheaded in Syria by Islamic State militants said Monday their hearts are battered by their son's death but that they believe his life is proof "one person can make a difference."

Ed and Paula Kassig of Indianapolis read a brief statement in their first public comments since learning Sunday that their 26-year-old son had been killed.

"In 26 years, he has witnessed and experienced firsthand more of the harsh realities of life than most of us can imagine," Paula Kassig said of her son, Peter, who changed his first name to Abdul-Rahman after converting to Islam during captivity. "But rather than letting the darkness overwhelm him, he has chosen to believe in the good — in himself and in others."

"Peter's life is evidence that he's been right all along — one person can make a difference."

Kassig, a former Army Ranger, was captured Oct. 1, 2013, while delivering aid in Syria through a relief organization he founded. The Kassigs did not disclose his captivity while family and friends quietly worked

to secure his release. In October, their son appeared in another video released by the Islamic State group that showed the beheading of a fellow aid worker, Britain's Alan Henning. The militants vowed that Kassig would be next, leading his

death Sunday after the Islamic State group released a video showing that Kassig had been beheaded.

The video also showed the beheadings of about a dozen men identified as Syrian military officers and

widely denounced, with the Islamic Society of North America calling it "barbaric and un-Islamic."

His parents asked for prayers for peace at sunset Monday and requested "the time and privacy to mourn, cry — and yes, for-



Ed and Paula Kassig, parents of Peter Kassig, speak during a news conference Monday, Nov. 17, 2014, in Indianapolis. Peter Kassig was captured Oct. 1, 2013, while delivering aid in Syria through a relief organization he founded. The White House confirmed Peter Kassig's death Sunday, Nov. 16 after the Islamic State group released a video showing that Kassig had been beheaded.

(AP Photo/Darron Cummings)

parents to plead publicly for mercy while stressing his humanitarian work and conversion to Islam.

The White House confirmed

pilots.

The Islamic State group has now killed five Westerners it was holding.

Kassig's slaying has been

give — and begin to heal."

A memorial service in the Muslim and Christian faiths was being planned for this weekend. □

China and Australia sign free-trade deal

ROD McGUIRK
Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — China and Australia signed a preliminary free-trade deal on Monday that would give Australia's service industry unsurpassed access to the Chinese market and Australian agriculture advantages over competitors from the United States, Canada and the European Union, officials said.

Chinese President Xi Jinping witnessed the signing by Australian and Chinese officials of a declaration of intent which officially concluded negotiations that began in 2005.

Xi earlier told Australia's Parliament that China was committed to peaceful development and resolu-

tion of territorial disputes. But China expected some concern about its rise because "it's like a big guy in the crowd."

"Others will naturally wonder how the big guy will move and act and be concerned that the big guy may push them around, stand in their way, or even take up their place," he said. The deal between Australia and its largest trading partner will make 85 percent of goods exports tariff-free from the outset, rising to 93 percent four years later, the Australian government said. The government did not reveal what proportion of Australian goods exports are currently tariff-free.

In return, Australia will lift the threshold at which private-

ly-owned Chinese companies can invest in non-sensitive areas without government scrutiny from 248 million Australian dollars (\$218 million) to AU\$1,078 million. Tariffs on Chinese manufactured goods would also be lifted.

Trade Minister Andrew Robb said the pact would be signed next year and take effect as early as March if it is endorsed by the Australian Parliament by then.

Australia had "secured the best-ever market access provided to a foreign country by China on services," such as banks, universities and health care providers, he said. The removal of tariffs on Australian farm products would give Australia an advantage over

U.S., Canadian and E.U. competitors while negating advantages New Zealand and Chile have enjoyed through their free-trade deals with China, he said. Sticking points in the negotiations were Chinese protection of its rice, cotton, wheat, sugar and oil seed industries and demands for less Australian government restrictions on Australian companies and assets being sold to Chinese state-owned businesses.

Robb said those were excluded from the agreement, which will be renegotiated in three years.

Xi said two-way trade grew from \$86 million in the early years after Australia recognized communist China in 1972 to \$136 billion last year. □

British, Dutch kill poultry to battle bird flu

GREGORY KATZ
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Chickens were being killed in the Netherlands, and Britain was preparing to kill ducks, after two cases of bird flu were discovered in Europe — but officials insisted Monday that the risk to public health was very low.

British officials said they were investigating a case of the H5 bird flu virus in northern England, but noted it's not the more dangerous H5N1 strain. They said all 6,000 ducks at a breeding farm in the Driffield area of East Yorkshire will be killed and a restriction zone was being set up to prevent further spread of the infection. Tests were also being carried out at nearby farms.

The U.K. government food agency said there is no risk to the food chain and British Chief Veterinary Officer Nigel Gibbens told BBC the risk of the disease spreading is probably quite low.

It was the first bird flu outbreak in Britain in six years, officials said. The Dutch government, meanwhile, banned the transport of poultry and eggs throughout the Netherlands after finding the H5N8 strain of bird flu at a chicken farm. All 150,000 chickens at the farm in Hekendorp, 65 kilometers (40 miles) south of Amsterdam, were being killed and 16 other nearby farms were being checked. It was not clear how the farm became infected. Spokeswoman Catherine Bertrand-Ferrandis of the World Organization for Animal Health said that there are no known cases when the H5N8 strain was transmitted to humans.

She said Dutch authorities are taking "all the correct, normal measures" and that culling the chickens is "the only way to limit the contagion"

On the British case, she said cases found in ducks are "usually weakly pathogenic," as opposed to the "highly pathogenic" versions that caused panic in the past. □



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Missouri's Governor Activates National Guard

DAVID A. LIEB

Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Missouri

(AP) — Missouri's governor declared a state of emergency Monday and activated the National Guard state militia ahead of a grand jury decision about whether a white police officer will be charged in the fatal shooting of an unarmed black 18-year-old in the St. Louis suburb of Ferguson.

Gov. Jay Nixon said the National Guard would assist police in case the grand jury's decision leads to a resurgence of the civil unrest that occurred in the days immediately after the Aug. 9 shooting of Michael Brown by Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson.

"My hope and expectation is that peace will prevail," Nixon said. "But we have a responsibility — I have a responsibility — to plan for any contingencies that might arise."

There is no specific date for a grand jury decision to be revealed, and Nixon gave no indication that an announcement is imminent. But St. Louis County Pros-

ecutor Bob McCulloch has said that he expects the grand jury to reach a decision in mid-to-late November.

the charge should be. If the jury issues an indictment, a separate jury will be selected to decide whether the person is guilty.

will be completed.

Nixon also declared a state of emergency in August and put the Missouri State Highway Patrol in charge

around the command center.

This time, Nixon said the St. Louis County Police Department would be in charge of a unified police command in Ferguson. The St. Louis city police and Missouri State Highway Patrol will help.

The governor did not indicate how many National Guard troops would be mobilized, instead leaving it to the state adjutant general to determine. Nixon said the National Guard would be available to carry out any requests made through the Highway Patrol to "protect life and property" and support local authorities. If the Guard is able to provide security at police and fire stations, then more police officers may be freed up to patrol the community, Nixon said.

St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay said Monday that he supports Nixon's decision to activate the Guard. He said the Guard "will be used in a secondary role" and could potentially be stationed at places such as shopping centers and government buildings. □



Protesters march down Delmar Boulevard during an event to mark the 100th day since Michael Brown was fatally shot by a police officer, in University City, Mo., Nov. 16, 2014. Missouri's governor declared a state of emergency Monday and activated the National Guard state militia ahead of a grand jury decision about whether a white police officer will be charged in the fatal shooting of an unarmed black 18-year-old in the St. Louis suburb of Ferguson.

(Whitney Curtis/The New York Times)

The grand jury is considering whether there is enough evidence to charge Wilson with a crime and, if so, what

The U.S. Justice Department, which is conducting a separate investigation, has not said when its work

of a unified local police command. Eventually, Nixon activated the National Guard to provide security



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Kerry says US 'not intimidated' by Islamic militants

MATTHEW LEE
LARA JAKES

Associated Press
LONDON (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry issued a warning Monday to Islamic State militants that "we are not intimidated" after another American hostage was killed.

Kerry said the brutality of the Islamic State group and its potential spread worldwide was a key reason, among many, that the United States must remain deeply engaged in the Mideast.

His comments came right before he headed overseas for nuclear talks with Iran as a November 24 deadline for a deal looms. "We are obviously entering in a key period with negotiations regarding Iran's nuclear program," Kerry said at an annual policy forum in Washington, hosted by the publisher of Foreign Policy magazine.

But the bulk of his comments sought to underline the case for deep U.S. involvement in the Mideast. "We have to be deeply engaged — deeply engaged — in this region, because it is directly in the interest of our national security and our economy, and it is also in keeping of who we are,"

Kerry said.

He added: "The United States does not go in search of enemies in the Middle East. There are times, how-

try's civil war but ended up dying himself at the hands of Islamic State. The militant group that controls much of northern Syria and Iraq

Oct. 1, 2013, while delivering relief supplies for the aid group he founded.

Left unchecked, Kerry said that the Islamic State group

of the U.S., Britain, China, France, Russia and the European Union, known as the P5+1.

Oman, which has close ties with Iran, was the site of secret talks between American and Iranian diplomats in March 2013 and hosted the last round of high-level talks earlier this month in Muscat. On the heels of those talks, Oman's foreign minister paid a visit to Tehran over the weekend, according to Iranian media reports.

From London, Kerry will travel to Vienna, where the next round of nuclear talks is set to begin on Tuesday and continue through the week, the State Department says.

World powers have for years sought to strike a deal with Tehran to limit its nuclear program to a point where it cannot produce an atomic weapon. In return, the West would ease sanctions on Iran's oil and financial sectors that have crippled the Islamic Republic's economy.

Such an agreement would mark an unprecedented victory after a generation of mutual distrust and between Iran and much of the rest of the world. But a senior State Department official on Monday voiced skepticism about a final deal, and said there are no plans to extend the talks past the Nov. 24 deadline. "We still have gaps to close, and we do not yet know if we will be able to do so," said the official who was not authorized to brief reporters by name and spoke on condition of anonymity. Kerry may not take part in all the negotiating sessions in Vienna, and other stops are possible, officials said Monday. □



Emirati Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, left, and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry chat at the airport in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Kerry issued a warning Monday to Islamic State militants that "we are not intimidated" after another American hostage was killed.

(AP Photo/Nicholas Kamm, Pool)

ever, and this is one, when enemies come in search of us."

A day earlier, the White House confirmed the death of U.S. aid worker Peter Kasig, a former soldier who tried to help wounded Syrians caught in their coun-

has now killed five Westerners it was holding.

The IS video of a militant boasting about killing Kasig also appears to show extremists beheading a dozen Syrian soldiers. Kasig was captured by the extremists in eastern Syria on

could grow worldwide. Already, he said, the IS has seized more land and resources "than al-Qaida ever had on its best day of its existence."

IS "leaders assume that the world will be too intimidated to oppose them," Kerry said. "But let us be clear: We are not intimidated." Immediately after the speech, Kerry headed to London, where he will hold talks with European and Mideast officials on volatile situations in the Mideast, as well as on the Iran negotiations, which are set to expire next week. Kerry also plans to meet with the Egyptian and Emirati foreign ministers as well as the foreign minister of Oman. Oman appears to have emerged as a key player in the Iran talks outside the formal negotiating group

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Democrats shake lineup in House political team

JONATHAN MARTIN

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WASHINGTON - House Democrats, searching for a new generation of leaders and with an eye on the increasingly important Latino vote, have selected Rep. Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico to lead the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

They also named Rep. Steve Israel of New York, whom Lujan succeeds, to a new leadership post dedicated to communicating the party's agenda in the House.

Lujan, 42, who was first elected in 2008, comes from a politically prominent Democratic family in New Mexico. His father, Ben, was once speaker of the state House and was a longtime political power broker.

The younger Lujan has been active in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and is well liked by Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., the minority leader, and other members of the party leadership, which also gave him a coveted seat on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. As chairman of policy and communications, Israel, who ran the House Democratic campaign arm this year, will work to develop a unifying and clear line of attack against the House Republican majority.

Israel's position will be similar to the post Sen. Charles



Reps. Steve Israel (D-N.Y.), left, and Ben Ray Lujan (D-N.M.) during a news conference in Washington, Nov. 17, 2014. House Democrats have selected Lujan to lead the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and named Israel to a new leadership post dedicating to communicating their agenda.

(Jabin Botsford/The New York Times)

E. Schumer, D-N.Y., holds for Senate Democrats as head of the caucus' Democratic Policy and Communications Committee.

The appointment of Israel is both an acknowledgment that congressional Democrats have been unable to effectively define Republicans and that Pelosi does not fault him for the party's net loss of 12 seats in the midterm elections this month.

Israel, 56, is one of a handful of House Democrats thought to have his eye on ascending in the leadership ranks. There has been private grumbling among young House Democrats about their leadership, with some in the caucus hoping for fresh blood.

Gay marriage issue squarely before high court

MARK SHERMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A same-sex couple from the state of Michigan is putting the question of the right to marry nationwide squarely before the Supreme Court. The couple's plea to be allowed to marry was being filed Monday. It asks the justices to hold that state laws prohibiting same-sex couples from getting married violate "our nation's most cherished and essential guarantees."

The appeal from Detroit-area hospital nurses April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse calls

on the court to overturn an appeals court ruling that upheld anti-gay marriage laws in Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee.

Same-sex couples can marry in 32 states, parts of Kansas and Missouri, and the Washington federal district.

Michigan officials have said they would not oppose Supreme Court review, but would vigorously defend a provision of the state constitution that prohibits same-sex marriage.

The justices also will consider appeals from gay and lesbian plaintiffs in the other

three states.

The Kentucky case also involves the right of sex-same couples to marry, but Kentucky Attorney General Jack Conway has declined to defend the state ban and Gov. Steve Beshear has hired private attorneys to represent the state. The Ohio appeal focuses on the state's refusal to recognize out-of-state gay marriages because of its own ban, while the Tennessee case is narrowly focused on the rights of three same-sex couples.

Another reason the Michigan case could be attrac-

tive to the court is because it went through a full-blown trial. U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman in Detroit struck down the state ban in March.

DeBoer and Rowse said they initially filed their federal lawsuit because they could not jointly adopt each other's children. Joint adoption is reserved for married heterosexual couples in Michigan.

They are raising three children, two of whom have special needs, DeBoer and Rowse told the Supreme Court.



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In this file photo, health workers transport Dr. Martin Salia, a surgeon working in Sierra Leone who had been diagnosed with Ebola, to the Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Neb., Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014. Dr. Salia did not receive aggressive treatment until nearly two weeks after he first started showing symptoms of Ebola, — a delay that doctors said probably made it impossible for anyone to save his life.

(AP Photo/Nati Harnik)

Ebola doctor endured treatment delays

**JOSH FUNK
NELSON LAMPE
Associated Press**

OMAHA, Nebraska (AP) —

A surgeon who contracted Ebola in his native Sierra Leone did not receive aggressive treatment until nearly two weeks after he first started showing symptoms — a delay that doctors said probably made it impossible for anyone to save his life.

Dr. Martin Salia was in the 13th day of his illness when he reached the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha on Saturday. He had waited three days to be formally diagnosed after an initial test for Ebola came back negative. He then waited five more days to be flown to the United States.

By the time the 44-year-old Maryland man got to Omaha, the deadly virus had

done too much damage, shutting down Salia's kidneys and making breathing difficult, doctors said. He died Monday.

"In the very advanced stages, even the modern techniques we have at our disposal are not enough to help these patients once they reach a critical threshold," said Dr. Jeffrey Gold, chancellor of the medical center.

The virus has already killed more than 5,000 people in West Africa.

Salia, who chose to work in his native country despite more lucrative opportunities elsewhere, was first tested for Ebola on Nov. 7, but the test was negative, and he was discharged from a treatment center in Sierra Leone.

It's not unusual to see false negative tests for Ebola in the early stages because

the amount of the virus in the bloodstream is still low, said Dr. Phil Smith, an infectious-disease expert who leads the Nebraska Medical Center's biocontainment unit.

The U.S. government warns doctors to be wary of possible false negative tests for Ebola.

Salia tested positive for the disease on Nov. 10 but did not arrive at the Omaha hospital until Saturday.

Two other Ebola patients treated in Omaha in recent months arrived at the hospital roughly a week earlier in their illnesses, before nausea, vomiting and more serious symptoms had set in. Both of those men recovered.

Government officials in Sierra Leone promised a full investigation into the treatment Salia received.

Pope Francis confirms his trip to the United States

**MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press**

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A pontiff who has long championed humble acts — sneaking off to break bread with the homeless as an archbishop and washing the feet of young prisoners early in his papacy — is coming to the City of Brotherly Love.

Pope Francis confirmed Monday that he will make his first papal visit to the United States with a trip to Philadelphia in September for the World Meeting of Families, a conference held every three years in a different city to celebrate the importance of family.

Francis' announcement at an interreligious Vatican conference on traditional family values ended months of lobbying and speculation. It will be the second papal visit to Philadelphia — John Paul II celebrated Mass in the city in 1979 — and the first papal visit to the U.S. in eight years.

Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, speaking at a news conference, called it a "joyous day."

Nutter, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett and Philadelphia Archbishop Charles Chaput, the conference's organizer, met with Francis at the Vatican in March and personally invited him to the city.

Vatican officials toured the city in May and President Barack Obama, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Congress have extended invitations.

Just last week, more than 10,000 Philadelphia Catholic schoolchildren sent handwritten notes encouraging the 77-year-old Francis to make the visit.

The pope is also expected to visit New York and Washington, but Vatican officials would not confirm those legs of the trip Monday.

The pope "wanted to guarantee his presence to the organizers of the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia 2015, but for the rest I have nothing to say, no concrete information to give," Vatican spokesman the Rev. Federico Lombardi told reporters.

The Vatican's envoy to the United Nations strongly hinted last week that Francis would visit New York to address world leaders at the General Assembly, saying the coming 70th anniversary of the world body would be "the ideal time."

Archbishop Bernardito Auza, the Holy See's representative to the U.N., told The Associated Press that "if he comes to Philadelphia, he will come to New York."

Francis' visit will come at a time when the U.S. church is trying to keep Catholics in the fold, including Latino immigrants who have been joining Protestant churches or leaving organized religion in significant numbers. Expectations will also be high for him to address the clergy sex abuse scandals. His predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, met privately with victims on his April 2008 visit to Washington D.C. and New York City.



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US Financial Front:

American factory output increases 0.2% in October

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S.

manufacturing output grew modestly in October, as autoworkers churned out fewer cars and trucks. Output at manufacturing plants rose 0.2 percent in October, the Federal Reserve said Monday. Gains came from the rising demand for machinery, plastics, clothing and furniture. Factory output has risen 3.4 percent over the past 12 months.

But in October, the automotive sector tapped the brakes for the third straight month. Auto production fell 1.2 percent in October, after declines of 1.9 percent in September and 7.2 percent in August. Despite the slowdown, motor vehicle sales were strong last month. Total industrial production dipped 0.1 percent last month, due to a sharp decline in output from the volatile mining and utility sectors.

The report was consistent with annualized economic growth of roughly 2 percent a year, significantly below the 3.5 percent rate during the July-September quarter, said Steven Ricchiuto, chief economist at Mizuho Securities.

Manufacturing has steadily helped fuel economic growth for much of 2014. Employers have added more than 2.2 million jobs so far this year and the unemployment rate has plunged to a six-year-plus low of 5.8 percent. Stocks have rebounded in the past month to record highs after having slipped in the middle of October. Demand for home electronics, appliances, furniture and carpeting have all perked up. That growth faces new

challenges because of a broadening slowdown in Europe, China and Japan. On Monday, Japan unexpectedly slid back into recession, sending global markets downward. As economies overseas have struggled, the demand for American-made goods has waned. So far, greater domestic demand has more than offset the declines from abroad.

"While industry should be hit harder than other sectors, the strength of domestic demand will prevent a major slowdown," said Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics. Strong factory production over the past 12 months has trickled into hiring and new paychecks that have bolstered growth in the broader economy. Factories added 170,000 jobs during that period that pay on average more than \$19 an hour, according to the Labor Department.

But other manufacturing indicators have been uneven in recent months. Manufacturing firms are increasingly confident, according to the Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing managers. The organization's manufacturing index rebounded to 59 last month from 56.6 in September. Any reading above 50 signals expansion. The result matched a three-year high reached in August and reversed a September drop, all of which suggests that factory output will continue to drive growth.

Out of 18 sectors in the index, only petroleum and coal reported that activity had decreased. Manufacturing exports grew last month but at a slower pace than September.



Agil Alhaddi inspects a roof rail for the 2015 Ford F-150 at the Dearborn Truck Plant in Dearborn, Mich. The Federal Reserve released industrial production figures for October on Monday, Nov. 17, 2014.

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

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American Living:

Disgusted by Smoking, Outraged by Tobacco Ban Plan

KATHARINE Q. SEELYE

© 2014 New York Times

WESTMINSTER, Mass. - The fury - and make no mistake, it is white-hot fury - went way beyond the ordinary wrath of offended citizenry. A plan here to ban the sale of tobacco has ignited a call to arms.

The outrage is aimed at a proposal by the local Board of Health that could make Westminster the first town in the country where no one could buy cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars and chewing tobacco.

The uproar stems not from a desire by people here to smoke - only 17 percent do (a smidge higher than the statewide average). Many say they have never touched tobacco and find the habit disgusting. Rather, they perceive the ban as a frontal assault on their individual liberties. And they say it would cripple the eight retailers in town who sell tobacco products. The ban is the major topic at Vincent's Country Store, where a petition against it sits on the front counter and attracts more signatures every day; at last count, 1,200 people had signed, in a town of 7,400.

As shoppers come and go, they feed one another's fury. "They're just taking away everyday freedoms, little by little," said Nate Johnson, 32, an egg farmer who also works in an auto body shop, as he stood outside the store last week. "This isn't about tobacco, it's about control," he said. "It's un-American," put in Rick Sparrow, 48, a house painter. As Wayne and Deborah Hancock grabbed a shopping cart, they joined in. All quickly agreed that the next freedoms at risk would be guns and religion,

prompting Deborah Hancock, 52, a homemaker, to say that she was afraid to wear her cross.

"I'm thinking, 'Am I going to be beheaded?'" she said, not entirely joking.

Nearly 500 people packed a hearing at a local el-

wars. The pre-Revolutionary settlement emerged as a stagecoach stop in the late 1700s between Boston and points west. It remains largely rural and votes heavily Republican. There is no industry here, not even a mall.

ing in workplaces, as well as in restaurants and bars. And most of the state's 351 cities and towns have enacted their own restrictions. For example, 105 towns have banned tobacco sales in health care institutions, including pharma-

young people.

"We have a whack-a-mole-effect," Joan Hamlett, the town's tobacco control agent, said at the hearing Wednesday night before it was cut short. "Every 18 months since 1994, this Westminster Board of Health has been looking at different regulations because every time we work together to find a way to reduce youth access to tobacco, the tobacco industry comes out with a new product that we have to look at and address and figure out how to regulate." Andrea Crete, chairwoman of the Board of Health, quoting a report from the surgeon general, said that youth who shop at least twice a week in stores that sell tobacco are 64 percent more likely to start smoking than those who do not.

A resident named Kevin West said smoking was "one of the most disgusting habits anybody could possibly do," but added: "I find this proposal to be even more of a disgusting thing." The shouts after his statement prompted Crete, who had issued several warnings, to declare the hearing over. She said that people could submit their views in writing until Dec. 1. The board, which has final say on the ban, will schedule another meeting and vote on the proposal, but she did not know when.

As angry citizens milled about after the aborted hearing, Brian Vincent, who owns Vincent's Country Store, said he was disappointed he did not have a chance to tell the board that none of the merchants in town sells the kind of cheap, sweet tobacco products that the board is worried about.



A man waves an American flag during a public hearing in Westminster, Mass., where the local Board of Health has proposed a ban on the sale of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars and chewing tobacco, Nov. 12, 2014. The plan has ignited a call to arms from many who perceive the proposal as a frontal assault on their individual liberties.

(Gretchen Ertl/The New York Times)

ementary school Wednesday night held by the three members of the Board of Health. Passions ran high, and the hearing became so unruly that the board chairwoman could not maintain order; she shut down the hearing 20 minutes after it began.

The crowd started singing "God Bless America" in protest as the board members left under police protection. Angry residents circulated petitions demanding a recall election for the board members.

Few can fathom how Westminster became the latest setting for the nation's decades-old tobacco

Tobacco accounts for only a fraction of total revenue at the stores here that sell it. But people who buy cigarettes and cigars also buy other things, and studies say that losing those customers can cost stores a third of their revenue.

"The name of the game is one-stop shopping," said Joe Serio, the owner and pharmacist at the brown-shingled Westminster Pharmacy, where tobacco sales are 2 percent of revenues, and where wine and beer are stocked next to the cramped aisles of Band-Aids and antacids.

Over the years, Massachusetts has banned smok-

cies; 34 have raised the legal age for buying cigarettes to 21 from 18; eight have banned the sale of flavored tobacco products and e-cigarettes.

But Westminster would be the first in the state and nation with a full-blown ban on selling all tobacco and nicotine products. The idea originated with the Board of Health, which says it has a moral obligation to try to stop young people from smoking. The board found it hard to keep up with all the new products, like bubblegum-flavored cigars and strawberry-margarita-flavored tobacco, many of them aimed at hooking

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Fun with friends

Europeans have prominent role in beheading video

LORI HINNANT
Associated Press

PARIS (AP)—The cold-eyed militants lined up behind their victims in the latest Islamic State video appear to come from outside the Middle East, including one from France and possibly two from Britain, as the extremist group tries to show a global reach.

The grisly video — clearly aimed at a Western audience — lingers as much on the faces of the camouflaged extremists as the men who are beheaded. The victims include American aid worker Peter Kassig and more than a dozen Syrian soldiers.

The images of the Islamic State militants, who are shown one by one in close-up, allowed authorities to identify one of them Monday as a 22-year-old Frenchman who converted to radical Islam.

Maxime Hauchard has been on the radar of French authorities since 2011 when he took two trips to Mauritania to attend a Quranic school, said Paris prosecutor Francois Molins. The prosecutor said investigators were trying to determine if another Frenchman also is in the video.

President Barack Obama confirmed Kassig's slaying after a U.S. review of the video.

The overwhelming majority of Islamic State fighters are from the Mideast, but the extremist group is trying to cement its claim on an Islamic empire straddling Iraq and Syria. Europe appears to be a fertile ground to find supporters, with officials saying thousands of young Europeans have headed off to jihad. More than 1,000 people in France alone are under surveillance for suspected plans to join the militants,

officials said.

In the video released Sunday, some of the knife-wielding extremists standing behind their kneeling victims had distinctly Asian features. Another whose face was hooded had the familiar London accent of the jihadi who also appeared in beheading videos with American hostages James Foley and Steven Sotloff, and with British hostages David Haines and Alan Henning. There also were indications that a Welsh medical student may be the man standing next to Hauchard.

"It's quite transparent that IS is trying to exaggerate its base of support," said Charlie Winter, a researcher at the Quilliam Foundation in London. "They are trying to show that Muslims from all over the world are protecting their Syrian brethren and their Iraqi brethren."

European officials are trying just as furiously to counter that message.

"I call solemnly and seriously on all our citizens, and notably our young people who are the primary target of the terrorist propaganda, to open your eyes to the terrible reality of the actions of Daesh," said French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve, using an Arabic acronym for the Islamic State group. "These are criminals that are building a system of barbarity."

Hauchard gave an interview to France's BFM television in July, telling the network he had helped capture Mosul, the Iraqi city whose fall eventually prompted the United States to resume military operations in Iraq.

"We're waiting for death," Hauchard said at the time. "My objective is to be a martyr."

A man from Wales, Ahmed



This image taken from video published on the Internet by the Islamic State group shows a militant that the French government says is Frenchman Maxime Hauchard. Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said there is a "strong presumption" that Maxime Hauchard is among the group of Islamic extremist fighters in the video released over the weekend.

(AP Photo)

Muthana, said he thinks he saw his son, 20-year-old Nasser Muthana, in the latest video, and Winter, the British researcher, con-

firmed the likeness.

"It resembles him. I was shown a picture of the video. I cannot confirm it is him, but I think it might be,"

Ahmed Muthana told Britain's Press Association.

Kassig had gone to Syria on a humanitarian mission. His parents, Ed and Paula Kassig, said Monday that while their hearts have been shattered by his death, they believe his life is proof that "one person can make a difference."

"In 26 years, he has witnessed and experienced firsthand more of the harsh realities of life than most of us can imagine," Paula Kassig said in Indianapolis, Indiana, reading a brief statement. "But rather than letting the darkness overwhelm him, he has chosen to believe in the good — in himself and in others."

As for the French militant in the video, Molins said he had used aid work as a pretext.



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Tough stances from Putin, Merkel over Ukraine

LAURA MILLS

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — The leaders of Russia and Germany squared off over Ukraine from opposite sides of the globe, with Vladimir Putin warning that Moscow will not accept a defeat for the pro-Russian rebels and Angela Merkel accusing the Kremlin of undermining peace across Europe. But despite the harsh rhetoric, European Union foreign ministers refrained from increasing the sanctions against Moscow, voicing support for a floundering peace deal in eastern Ukraine that has been undermined by continuing hostilities.

At least 10 people were killed and 17 others wounded in the latest fighting, authorities reported Monday. In an interview with German ARD television broadcast late Sunday, Putin said he still believes in the success of peace efforts in eastern Ukraine, where pro-Russian rebels have been battling Kiev's troops in a conflict that has claimed more than 4,000 lives.



Revellers carry an effigy of Russian President Vladimir Putin with bear paws during a carnival march "Velvet Fair" commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution in Prague, Czech Republic, Monday, Nov. 17, 2014.

(AP Photo/CTK, Vit Simanek)

Merkel, the German chancellor, spoke Monday in Sydney after the G-20 summit, which Putin left early after receiving a chilly response from Western leaders. In unequivocal terms, she said Russia's annexation of Crimea had raised the threat of more conflicts in Europe.

"Who would have thought that, 25 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, after the end of the Cold War and the end of the world's separation into two blocks, something like this could have happened in the

middle of Europe?" Merkel said. "Old ways of thinking in spheres of influence, which spurn international law, must not become accepted." The German leader warned that regional conflicts like the one still

raging in eastern Ukraine "can very quickly broaden to major fires."

"It's not only about Ukraine. It's about Moldova, it's about Georgia, if it continues like this ... one has to wonder about Serbia, one has to wonder about the countries in the western Balkans," Merkel said.

Merkel insisted that European Union and U.S. sanctions against Russia would remain in place "as far and long as they are needed." In the rebel-held stronghold of Donetsk, officials said Monday that one civilian had been killed and eight injured in fighting over the weekend. On the Ukrainian side, six troops were reported killed and nine wounded in clashes Sunday, and unidentified attackers killed three traffic police.

The pound of artillery fire could be heard Monday in the rebel-held eastern city of Donetsk and residents lined up outside banks to withdraw their dwindling cash. □

Hong Kong warns it may clear protest site

CHRIS BUCKLEY

KEITH BRADSHAW

© 2014 New York Times

HONG KONG - The Hong Kong government prepared Monday to push back against pro-democracy demonstrators for the first time in weeks, warning that the following day police could clear part of a central street that protesters have made their base. The government said the police were ready to help court bailiffs enforce an injunction ordering people to stop congregating around the Citic Tower in Admiralty, a neighborhood near government headquarters that for more than 50 days has become a street camp for thousands of protesters, some living in tents.

"Police are ready to give the fullest support to the bailiffs to execute the court order tomorrow," said a government statement. "If anyone obstructs or violently charges the bailiffs when they are executing their duties, police will take

resolute action."

A police action would mark the first attempt by the Hong Kong government in a month to shrink the barricaded camps that protesters have built in an effort to force authorities and Chinese Communist Party leaders to heed their demands.

But protesters and the government have said that any clearing operation would be just one move in a politically fraught endgame that is far from over. The court injunction applies to only a part of one of three areas seized in late September by protesters demanding open democratic elections for Hong Kong's leader.

Acting on a complaint from the building's owner, a Hong Kong court issued an injunction in November against blocking traffic to the Citic Tower, an office and retail building across the street from the government headquarters on the south side of Victoria Har-

bor. The court has issued a similar injunction for a street in Mong Kok, another protest site on the north side of the harbor that is usually thronged by Chinese tourists, after a taxi drivers' association and a minibus company brought complaints. The government warned that anyone obstructing the police could be culpable of "criminal contempt of court."

"Police urge the illegal road occupiers to obey the court order, remove obstacles and personal belongings, and stop the illegal occupation soonest," the statement said.

A person involved in the Hong Kong government's decision said the police would not rush to clear completely the three occupied areas, although the closure of major avenues had caused traffic jams and hurt sales in stores. The person insisted on anonymity, because he was not authorized to speak openly about the matter. □

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'Red warning lights' flashing for global economy

DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The global economy's problems seem to be multiplying.

Hours after the leaders of the world's 20 most developed economies sought to boost confidence by promising to increase global output by \$2 trillion over five years, Japan said it had fallen into recession.

That leaves the country — the world's third-largest economy — on a long and growing list of troubled economies. China is slowing as well, and Europe can't seem to take off.

Among major economies, only the United States and Britain are growing at decent rates, and how long that lasts depends on how much trouble their trading partners are in.

British Prime Minister David Cameron warned in an opinion piece in the Guardian newspaper on Monday that the "red warning lights are flashing" for the world economy.

Here's a look at the problems in some key economies.

JAPAN'S RECESSION

This setback was not in the plan.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe had pledged to end two decades of stagnation with a strategy dubbed "Abenomics" that included big economic reforms and stimulus. But the economy contracted at an annual pace of 1.6 percent in the third quarter after housing and business investment dropped following a sales tax increase.

The contraction came despite predictions the economy would rebound from a drop in the previous three months.

Consumer spending is

faltering as the population shrinks and grows older. Household incomes peaked more than a decade ago, and workers are increasingly having trouble making ends meet with part-time or contract work. Manufacturers, meanwhile, have lost their leading edge in innovation while shifting production to cheaper locations offshore.

Japan's weakness could hinder growth elsewhere if its companies cut investment and buy fewer imports such as machinery, electronics and raw materials. The island nation is one of the world's biggest importers of food and the third-biggest buyer of natural gas.

CHINA CONTRACTING

Growth in China, a manufacturing giant, is slowing — from 10.4 percent in 2010 to an estimated 7.5 percent this year. Explosive growth in China has been one of the primary drivers of the world economy for the past decade, so its slowdown is having ripple effects.

The question for Chinese leaders is how to let the country's economy slow to more sustainable growth rates without having a "crash landing." The government is trying to boost domestic spending while easing off its dependence on trade and state-sponsored investment.

Because China has strong trade links to the West, a slowdown would do some damage to the U.S. and Europe. Its massive manufacturing sector is a big consumer of raw materials, so weaker growth would particularly hurt commodity-producing countries like



People walk on a pedestrian crossing in Tokyo Monday, Nov. 17, 2014. Japan's economy unexpectedly slid into recession as housing and business investment declined following a sales tax hike, further clouding the outlook for the global economy.

(AP Photo/Shizuo Kambayashi)

Australia and Brazil.

EMERGING MARKETS

China's slowdown from high rates is echoed in

many other emerging markets, such as India and Brazil.

Many of these countries have benefited for years

from a steady flow of investment from developed economies. Because interest rates have been at record lows in the U.S. and Europe, many investors there have sought higher yields in emerging markets, where interest rates are higher.

That is changing, however. The U.S. Federal Reserve is considering raising interest rates, which will entice some investors to keep their money in the U.S. — or withdraw it from emerging markets.

That flow of money back to the U.S. can create huge turbulence in markets. It was behind sharp drops in emerging markets and currencies in February, for example.



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Colombia halts peace talks after general is taken

JOSHUA GOODMAN

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)

— President Juan Manuel Santos demanded Colombia's largest rebel group demonstrate its commitment to peace and immediately release an army general it captured Sunday, saying the resumption of suspended talks to end the half-century conflict depend on it.

Santos addressed the nation Monday night little more than 24 hours after Gen. Ruben Dario Alzate, dressed in civilian clothes, was snatched by gunmen along with two others while visiting a hamlet along a remote river in western Colombia. A soldier who managed to flee in the group's boat, and reportedly had advised the general against traveling deep into the jungle, said the rebels belonged to the recalcitrant 34th Front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC.

It's the first time that the guerrillas have taken an army general captive and couldn't have come at a worse moment for Santos. Even before Santos suspended two-year-old peace talks, frustration with the slow progress and the guerrillas' refusal to wind down attacks had been building. Earlier this month, the FARC captured two soldiers during intense fighting in northeast Colombia and killed two Indians who confronted rebels hanging up revolutionary banners on their reservation. It has since offered to free the soldiers.

Calling Alzate's abduction "totally unacceptable," Santos ordered government peace negotiators not to travel Monday to Cuba as planned for the next round of peace talks

peace doesn't come by resorting to violence and undermining confidence," Santos said Monday night in a 5-minute, televised address.

Amid the tough talk, little is

far yielded few leads and residents of the 800-person hamlet of wooden shacks where the group was taken told local media they didn't know about the visit. The FARC considers captured military personnel to be prisoners of war even though it freed all soldiers in its control and swore off the kidnapping of civilians on the eve of talks in 2012. It also has been clamoring for a cease-fire while peace talks continue, something Santos has rejected for fears it would allow the guerrillas to regroup like they did in the last attempt at peace that ended in 2002.

The FARC's 34th Front is among the group's most entrenched and fiercest fighting units, based in the dense, water-logged jungles around Quibdo where a slew of criminal gangs and drug traffickers also operate. Its members repeatedly violated unilateral cease-fires declared by the FARC leadership in Havana during elections and Christmas holidays.

A spokesman for the FARC in Havana declined to comment, saying the rebels' negotiators were still investigating the incident and would comment at a press conference Tuesday. Santos, who was re-elected in June,

has staked his presidency on reaching a deal with the FARC. But he's struggled to overcome doubts from conservative opponents and members of the military who fear he's ceding too much power to the rebels. □



This Aug. 15, 2014 photo released by Colombia's Army press office shows Colombian Army Gen. Ruben Dario Alzate, left, reaching to shake hands with a soldier in Bogota, Colombia. Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos suspended peace talks with the South American nation's largest rebel group after Alzate was taken captive on Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014.

(AP Photo/Colombian Army press office)

until Alzate and the two others — an army captain and a female lawyer advising the army on a rural energy project — are freed. "The FARC have to understand that, although we're negotiating in the middle of the conflict,

known about the general's whereabouts or why he apparently violated military protocol and set off on the Atrato River in the dangerous zone dressed as a civilian without bodyguards. A massive search operation mounted Monday has so

Brazil's Petrobras to create division to halt corruption

A. GOMEZ LICON

Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP)

— The head of Brazil's Petrobras vowed Monday to use a widening corruption scheme to improve governance at the state-run oil giant, in part through creation of a compliance department aimed at stamping out corruption.

In her first public remarks since the arrests of around two dozen people including a top company executive late last week, Graca Foster told a conference call with investors, "We want to turn this difficult moment into something better."

"Petrobras is a company that dreams to produce more and more oil and more and more transparency," Foster said. "We are going through a very difficult moment in the company, but we are convinced that we will have better management after we structure and implement all of these management improvement processes." Authorities allege top company officials operated a kickback scheme on contracts involving several billion dollars, with the money eventually fed back to the governing Workers Party and other top parties for political campaigns. On Friday, police arrested Renato Duque, former director of services of Petrobras, for his alleged role in the scheme, along with the heads of several top construction firms.

Foster said the scandal has underscored the need for a compliance department, which she said has the board of directors' full support and would be made operational as soon as possible, but remains in the planning phase.

During Monday's call, company officials also said they would not release until Dec. 12 the third-quarter results initially scheduled to come out last week to allow more time for an internal investigation. They said they'll need to revise data in the results if the allegations prove true. □

4 held in case of missing Honduras beauty queen

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras

(AP) — Honduran authorities are holding four people for questioning about the disappearance four days ago of Miss Honduras 2014, Maria Jose Alvarado, police said Monday.

One of the detained, Plutarco Ruiz, is the boyfriend of Alvarado's sister, Sofia, 23, who also went missing with the beauty queen. Another being held is the own-

er of the business where the women disappeared, said police spokesman Lt. Joseph Coello, though he would not identify him.

"Initially we detained 10, but six have been released," Coello said.

The two women were last seen Thursday in a spa in Santa Barbara, about 240 miles (400 kilometers) west of Tegucigalpa, where they had gone to celebrate

Ruiz's birthday. They have not been heard from since. Coello said the case is being treated as a disappearance because there has been no evidence of a kidnapping.

"Witnesses said my daughter left the spa with three men," her mother, Teresa Munoz,

told reporters. "I tried repeatedly all night to call their cellphones without

any response."

Chief prosecutor Gabriela Carranza said there are leads in the case that they can't discuss so as not to interfere with the investigation.

Alvarado, 19, was crowned Miss Honduras in April and is expected to compete in the Miss World Pageant in London next month. She was supposed to have left for London on Sunday. □



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event will offer an assortment of lionfish tastings by three creative chefs. To create more excitement for the event a lovely wine tasting will be sponsored from Romar Trading. Guests will learn more about the predatory Lionfish from Marine Biolo-

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local fish do not recognize their danger, our fish swim towards the pretty colorful Lionfish and get gobbled up. Lionfish lure our Groupers and Red Snapper, they eat our Lobster and deplete our reefs by swallowing anything that gets in their path. Worse Lionfish have no known ocean predators and repopulate quickly. Female Lionfish are producing 30,000 eggs every five days and this is what keeps Aruba's volunteer Lionfish Hunters spearing

each beautiful, spiny menace, one by one. If you're ready to try Lionfish for the first time, request the tasty fish at your favorite Seafood Restaurants in Aruba. Tickets for the Save the Reef Event on Nov 30 can be purchased at the Jolly Pirates Gift Shop for Awg 50. Save the Reef Party Sponsors: Aruba Marine Park Foundation, Aruba Wine and Dine, Grafficas Aruba and D'Art. Please call 592 7858 for more Party Information. □

Amsterdam Manor receives EarthCheck Master Achievement Award

EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort has obtained the Master Achievement Award for EarthCheck representing 15 years of continuous certification with EarthCheck. Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort received their first EarthCheck Certification in 2000 and is currently the first hotel in Aruba and second in the entire Caribbean obtaining the Earthcheck Master Achievement Award. Obtaining the Earthcheck Master Achievement Award requires commitment from the entire personnel to achieve better results in terms of sustainability each year.

"This achievement confirms the position as a worldwide leader in sustainable tourism," says Judy Williams, Certification Assistant Manager of EarthCheck. This inaugural EarthCheck Master Achieve-

ment Award provides the resort with an exclusive means to communicate to the consumers that the organisation adheres to the highest standards.

"Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort has always shown great dedication providing the highest level of service to our guests. The same perseverance has been shown in our commitment to Aruba's environment," comment Jurgen van Schaijk, Managing Director of the resort.

EarthCheck is widely regarded as the world's most scientifically rigorous environmental management program, designed specifically for the travel and tourism industry. It looks at key envi-

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The Aloe Vera Plant, a brief history.

Aloe Vera's healing properties were discovered centuries ago and it has been used as an ingredient in medications throughout the world by many different cultures ever since. It is believed that Cleopatra used Aloe to enhance the natural beauty of her skin by bathing in Aloe gel and that Christopher Columbus said: "Four vegetables are indispensable for the well being of a man: Wheat, the grape, the olive and Aloe. The first nourishes him, the second raises his spirit, the third brings him harmony and the fourth cures him."

Aloe Vera, meaning True Plant in Latin, originally comes from Africa and the plant has been endowed with such marvelous properties that over the years it has been given names such as the Burn Plant, Medicine Plant, Wand of Heaven and even Plant of Life.

"Island of Aloe".

The plant was introduced in Aruba in the mid 1800's, and because of the perfect weather conditions for the plant to grow in Aruba became one of the largest exporters of Aloe Vera products in the world earning the nickname "Island of Aloe". Aloe has proven to be so important to the local economy that the plant is even shown in the code of arms of Aruba. Aloe Vera nowadays tops the list as one of the most powerful moisturizers and hydrating remedies available and Aruban aloe is known to be the best in the world.

The Aruba Aloe Balm Factory and Museum Tour:

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Claude Cyr & Burdette Redfirn, from New Brunswick Canada, on Aruba for a friend's wedding:

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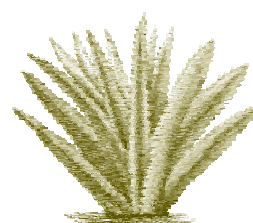
Laura & Dominio Bucciero, from Napels Italy on their honeymoon:

"First time in Aruba, we are here for our honeymoon and staying for a week. The tour is very interesting, even though I don't perfectly understand English. We have

Aloe in Italy but there it's not such good quality as the Aloe here. I have purchased the hand and body lotion because I don't really sunburn but still want very smooth and hydrated skin."

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token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more years consecutively. Mr. Ricardo Croes representing Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony at the Playa Linda Resort. Mrs. Noreen commented that she will never change her vacation island for any other island. The top reasons for

returning provided by the honorees are they consider Aruba to be the "Happy Island," the great weather and friendly Aruban hospitality, our white sand beaches and great local food! On the pictures Mr. Croes from ATA together with Jim and Noreen and also Yvette from the Playa Linda. □



San Jose Sharks' Joe Pavelski (8) collides with Carolina Hurricanes' Brad Malone (24) during the second period of an NHL hockey game in Raleigh, N.C., Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014.

Associated Press

NHL Capsules Hertl, Groesenick lead Sharks over Hurricanes 2-0

RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP) — Tomas Hertl scored his fourth goal of the season and rookie goalkeeper Troy Groesenick stopped 45 shots in his NHL debut to lead the San Jose Sharks to a 2-0 win over Carolina on Sunday.

Hertl scored at 18:46 of the first period on a Sharks' two-on-one drive to the net. His shot skittered underneath Carolina defenseman Andrej Sekera and between the pads of Anton Khudobin.

Joe Thornton added an empty-net goal with 7.3 seconds left in the game for the Sharks.

San Jose (10-8-2), playing its sixth game of a seven-game road trip, evened their record to 3-3 on the trip. The Sharks have played 15 of their first 21 games on the road and will play at Buffalo on Tuesday before returning home.

Carolina lost its third straight game, all by one goal.

Khudobin (0-4-2), the Carolina backup goalkeeper, finished with 17 saves and is still seeking his first win at home.

Continued on Page 20



ROBERT'S RULES

Coach Jay Gruden has strong words for RG III

Tampa Bay Buccaneers defensive end Jacquies Smith (56) sacks Washington Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III (10) during the second half of an NFL football game in Landover, Md., Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014. The Buccaneers defeated the Redskins 27-7.

Associated Press

Rest remains a challenge for NBA coaches, players

ANTONIO GONZALEZ

AP Basketball Writer

OAKLAND, California (AP)

— Golden State Warriors coach Steve Kerr anxiously waited for the lineups to be announced before a game against the San Antonio Spurs last week, knowing as well as anybody that it's a pivotal preparation point when facing Gregg Popovich's team.

It can be a guessing game who Popovich plays; he has set the bar when it comes to resting his veterans.

Many other coaches would like to follow his lead but, even for Popovich, trying to manage players' minutes and keep them fresh through the grind of the NBA's 82-game regular season is a tricky task.

"It's called the seat-of-my-pants science," Popovich quipped.

The Spurs' coach surprised more than a few people against the Warriors when he played veterans Tim Duncan, Manu Ginobili and Tony Parker for the second straight night on the road — something he has rarely done the last few seasons despite public pressure and a hefty fine from the NBA to change his tactics.

Popovich kept everybody guessing again during the weekend when he played his regulars on back-to-back nights against the Lakers and Kings.

Chicago Bulls star Derrick Rose received widespread criticism when he said his decision to sit out games is partially based on ensuring



Chicago Bulls' Derrick Rose sits on the bench during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Indiana Pacers on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014, in Chicago. The Indiana Pacers won 99-90.

Associated Press

he has a healthy life after his basketball career. The 2011 NBA MVP, who has missed most of the last two years with knee injuries, has sprained both ankles and been bothered by a sore left hamstring in the last month.

But the Bulls are not the first team to take a cautionary approach with its top player.

Miami's Dwyane Wade, Brooklyn's Kevin Garnett and Washington's Paul Pierce are among the game's top players who have regularly received nights off in recent seasons.

How and when to rest is an imperfect practice.

Kerr, who played for Popovich in San Antonio, said his mentor might be the only one in the league with enough clout to rest players as he pleases.

"As soon as I win five championships, I'm planning on employing that very liberally," Kerr said, chuckling. "People can say whatever they want about me. I won't care."

Here are some things to watch this week:

THE KING VS. THE CHAMPS: On Wednesday night in Cleveland, LeBron James

gets his first crack at the Spurs since San Antonio dismantled Miami in the finals and he returned to the Cavaliers. Cleveland enters the week on a four-game winning streak.

GOOD WITH THE BAD: Kobe Bryant set the record for the most missed shots in NBA history, surpassing John Havlicek's mark of 13,417 missed field goals. Of course, some of the worst records in sports belong to the best. Reggie Jackson struck out 2,597 times, more than any player in Major League Baseball history. Brett Favre holds the NFL re-

cord for most interceptions at 336, and Martin Brodeur gave up more goals (2,764) than any goalie in NHL history.

DOMINANT DAVIS: Anthony Davis has stayed healthy and lived up to the hype in his third season. The 21-year-old Pelicans big man has recorded at least 25 points, 10 rebounds and six blocks in three games already, the most any player has had in a season since Dwight Howard had three in 2009-10 with Orlando. Davis gets another shot at his fourth Tuesday at Sacramento.



This undated photo provided by publisher Harper Collins shows the cover of the book "Mo'ne Davis: Remember My Name."

Associated Press

Mo'ne Davis memoir coming next March

NEW YORK (AP) — A memoir when you're still a teenager may seem premature, but not for Mo'ne Davis, the first female pitcher to win a Little League World Series game.

"Mo'ne Davis: Remember My Name" will be released next March by HarperCollins Children's Books, the publisher told The Associated Press on Monday.

The honor roll student from Philadelphia became a

sensation last summer after leading the Taney Dragons to a 4-0 victory over Nashville, when she was just 13. Known for her long braids and uncommon poise, she has since appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated, thrown out the first pitch at a major league World Series game and starred in a car commercial directed by Spike Lee. In September, she donated her jersey to the baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

"When I joined an all-boys baseball team, my mom wasn't too happy," Mo'ne said in a statement issued Monday through HarperCollins.

"I proved to her (and to me) that I could do anything I set my mind to. I'm just a girl that likes to play sports and I'm excited to share my story with everyone," she said. "I hope it encourages people to take a chance and play

the sports they want to play and not just the ones people expect them to play." Later this month, she and her fellow Taney Dragons will help kick off the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Financial terms for the book deal were not disclosed. Author Hilary Beard, whose previous collaborations include "Promises Kept: Raising Black Boys to Succeed in School and in Life," will assist Davis with her memoir.



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Warriors beat Lakers 136-115 despite Kobe's 44

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Stephen Curry had 30 points and 15 assists as the Golden State Warriors cruised past the Los Angeles Lakers 136-115 Sunday night despite 44 points by Kobe Bryant.

Andrew Bogut had 15 points and 10 rebounds for the Pacific Division-leading Warriors, who are off to an 8-2 start under new coach Steve Kerr. Klay Thompson, who had 41 points in a win against the Lakers on Nov. 1, finished with 18 in the rematch. All of Golden State's starters scored in double figures for the second straight game.

Bryant, who sat out the fourth quarter with Los Angeles down by 36 points, was 15 for 34 from the field in 31 minutes — two nights after he played sick against the Phoenix Suns and missed his first 10 shots before finishing 1 for 14 with nine points.

Jordan Hill had 15 points and 11 rebounds for the Lakers, who are off to a franchise-worst 1-9 start.

ROCKETS 69, THUNDER 65
OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — James Harden scored 19 points, helping the Houston Rockets beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 69-65 on Sunday night for their third consecutive victory.

Dwight Howard had 12 points and nine rebounds for Houston, and Patrick Beverley added 12 points and eight boards.

The last time a team won with 69 or fewer points was Detroit's 64-62 victory over Utah on March 13, 2005, according to STATS. Both teams shot below 30 percent from the field — the last time that happened was Oct. 29, 2003, when Denver beat San Antonio 80-72.

Houston shot just 28.8 percent. The last time an NBA

team won with a lower percentage was on Feb. 19, 2000, when Chicago shot 28.6 percent and beat the Los Angeles Clippers 74-72. Reggie Jackson had 15 points and 11 rebounds for the Thunder. Lance Thomas also had 15 points.

BUCKS 91, HEAT 84

MIAMI (AP) — Brandon Knight made three 3-pointers down the stretch and scored 20 points, leading Milwaukee to the road win. Jabari Parker added 13 points for the Bucks (5-5), who started 5-21 last season. Larry Sanders, Giannis Antetokounmpo and Zaza Pachulia each scored 11.

Milwaukee beat Miami for the first time in the teams' last 10 meetings, including playoffs.

Mario Chalmers scored 18 for Miami, which was again without Dwyane Wade and lost its third straight. Shawne Williams had 13 points.

Wade missed his second straight game with a bad hamstring.

KNICKS 109, NUGGETS 93

NEW YORK (AP) — The Knicks held the Nuggets to one basket in the second quarter and ended a seven-game losing streak.

With the game tied at 31 entering the period, the Knicks outscored the Nuggets 31-8. Ty Lawson's layup at the buzzer was the lone field goal for Denver in the second.

Carmelo Anthony and J.R. Smith each scored 28 points for New York.



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, left, passes the ball past Los Angeles Lakers center Jordan Hill during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014, in Los Angeles.
Associated Press

Arron Afflalo had 18 points and Lawson added 17 points and nine assists for the Nuggets, who have dropped seven of their last eight games. □

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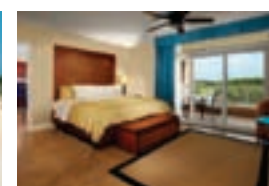
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NHL Round up

Continued from Page 17

WILD 4, JETS 3, OT

ST. PAUL (AP) — Marco Scandella scored at 1:01 of overtime after missing two games with an illness to give Minnesota a win over Winnipeg.

Minnesota was reeling after blowing a 3-0 lead in the third period and getting outplayed by the scrappy Jets. But Scandella's third goal of the season — a low wrist shot from just inside the blue line that beat Michael Hutchinson — prevented the Wild from losing their second game this year after losing a three-goal lead. Zach Parise scored two goals in his return from a concussion and helped give Minnesota a 3-0 lead after the first. But Winnipeg scored three goals in five minutes in the third to tie it and fire up the loud contingent of Jets fans.

Michael Frolik ended Niklas Backstrom's shutout bid at 5:55 with a wrist shot from the left side of the net.

Then Evander Kane scored his second goal this season when his backhand from the bottom of the right circle bounced off Backstrom's pads and in between his legs at 8:19.

CANADIENS 4, RED WINGS 1

DETROIT (AP) — Brendan Gallagher had a goal and an assist while Dustin Tokarski made 28 saves as the Montreal beat Detroit.

Two nights after dominating the Blackhawks in a 4-1 win, the Red Wings took too long to get untracked against another Original Six rival. Detroit only managed 10 shots in the first two periods despite four power plays.

Montreal took a 1-0 lead at 3:20 of the second, shortly after killing a Red Wings penalty. Detroit botched a line change, allowing Brandon Prust to pick up a loose puck and beat Jimmy Howard with a wrist shot from the top of the faceoff



Chicago Blackhawks left wing Brandon Saad (20) scores past Dallas Stars goalie Kari Lehtonen (32) during the third period of an NHL hockey game on Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014, in Chicago. The Chicago Blackhawks won 6-2.

Associated Press

circle.

The Canadiens doubled their lead with a fluke goal at 8:36, as P.K. Subban's slapper from the blue line hit the inside of Kyle Quincey's left thigh and deflected over Howard's shoulder.

BLACKHAWKS 6, STARS 2
CHICAGO (AP) — Patrick Kane and Kris Versteeg

each had a goal and two assists, and the Chicago rallied with four goals in the third period to defeat Dallas.

Kane connected from a sharp angle early in the third period to snap a 2-2 tie. Jonathan Toews, Versteeg, and Brandon Saad scored in a 2:55 span later

in the period to put the game away.

Defensemen Duncan Keith and Brent Seabrook scored in the first period as Chicago won for the third time in four games.

Dallas' Curtis McKenzie recorded his first NHL goal and Shawn Horcoff also scored for the Stars, who have dropped two straight and won just two of their last 11.

PANTHERS 6, DUCKS 2
ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Nick Bjugstad had two goals and two assists, and Brad Boyes scored twice during the Florida's four-goal second period in a victory over Anaheim.

Vincent Trocheck and Jonathan Huberdeau also scored as Florida opened a four-game road trip with a stunning blowout of the West-leading Ducks. Jussi Jokinen and Brian Campbell had two assists apiece in the highest-scoring performance of the season by the Panthers, who had an NHL-low 27 goals entering the game. □

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Washington coach: RG3 should 'worry about himself'

JOSEPH WHITE

AP Sports Writer

ASHBURN, Virginia (AP) —

Robert Griffin III was hard on himself plenty of times when talking about his performance in Washington's latest embarrassing loss in an embarrassing season.

And, a couple of times, he lumped his teammates in with him, and that concerns coach Jay Gruden.

"Robert needs to understand he needs to worry about himself, No. 1, and not everybody else," Gruden said Monday. "It's his job to worry about his position, his footwork, his fundamentals, his reads, his progressions — his job at the quarterback position. It's my job to worry about everybody else."

Griffin was about as self-critical as he could be in the moments after Sunday's 27-7 home loss to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers that dropped his team to 3-7. He blamed himself for taking six sacks and admitted he's not seeing the field well. He also challenged his teammates by saying that "great quarterbacks" such as Aaron Rodgers and Peyton Manning "don't play well if their guys don't play well."

That last comment, and one or two others, might have crossed a line with some people

Receiver DeSean Jackson, who supported Griffin in a team meeting two weeks ago, appeared to strike back Monday morning with an Instagram post that said: "You can't do epic (stuff) with basic people." Gruden said he addressed the matter with Griffin on Monday. "It's our job in-house as players and coaches to make sure we say the right things and not let your words get twisted by the media or anybody,"



Tampa Bay Buccaneers defensive back Brandon Dixon (39) knocks down Washington Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III (10) during the first half of an NFL football game in Landover, Md., Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014.

Associated Press

Gruden said. "Not give anybody an opportunity to do that. Otherwise it'll be he-said, she-said things and there will be Twitter wars and social media events that will get out of control, and we've got to put a stop to it now." Nevertheless, Griffin took to Facebook and Twitter on Monday afternoon and gave his own retort. "It's unfortunate that anyone would take a piece of my press conference and say I threw my teammates under the bus," Griffin posted. "I would never throw my teammates under the bus! I take responsibility for my play & will play better." Beyond all the words,

there's a much deeper concern with longer-range implications. In his third season, after 32 NFL starts, Griffin is still misfiring on some basics of the quarterback position. While Gruden was critical of everyone's play on Sunday, his review of Griffin was startling. "Robert had some fundamental flaws," Gruden said. "He did. His footwork was below average. He took three-step drops when he should have taken five. He took a one-step drop when he should have taken three, on a couple occasions, and that can't happen. He stepped up when he didn't have to step up and stepped into pressure.

He read the wrong side of the field a couple times. So, from his basic performance, just critiquing Robert, it was not even close to being good enough to what we expect from that quarterback position." The second of Griffin's two interceptions Sunday came after he locked onto the receiver too long, allowing a linebacker to read the quarterback's eyes and deflect the ball. Gruden said Griffin's problems were symptomatic of someone who needs to play with "a little bit greater poise." It's been more than 12 months since Griffin won a game in which he both started and finished. Grif-

fin likes to talk about being great. Gruden said it's maybe time to just concentrate on getting the job done. "Sometimes you don't need great," Gruden said. "You don't need to lead at that position on every snap. And he's obviously very competitive, but we just need him to do what he's supposed to do. You know, just take your drops the right way and throw the five-yard stick route when you're supposed to and do the best you can. "Sometimes he worries about a little bit too much, but he's a great competitor and we've just got to try to get him better." □

DEA agents raid NFL medical staffs after games

JIM LITKE

AP Sports Writer

Federal drug enforcement agents showed up unannounced Sunday to check at least three visiting NFL teams' medical staffs as part of an investigation into former players' claims that teams mishandled prescription drugs.

There were no arrests, Drug Enforcement Administration spokesman Rusty Payne said Sunday. The San Francisco 49ers' staff was checked at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, after they played the New York Giants. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers' staff was checked at Baltimore-Washington International airport after playing the Redskins. The Seattle Seahawks, who played at Kansas City, confirmed via the team's Twitter account that they were spot-checked as well.

The operation was still ongoing, and other teams may be checked later Sunday, Payne said.

"DEA agents are currently interviewing NFL team doctors in several locations as part of an ongoing investigation into potential violations of the (Controlled Substances Act)," Payne said. The spot checks were done by investigators from the federal DEA. They did not target specific teams, but were done to measure whether visiting NFL clubs were generally in compliance with federal law. Agents requested documentation from visiting teams' medical staffs for any controlled substances in their possession, and for proof that doctors could practice medicine in the home team's state.

"Our teams cooperated with the DEA today and we have no information to indicate that irregularities were found," NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said in an email.

The nationwide probe is being directed by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York — where the NFL is headquartered — but involves several U.S. attorney's offices.

The investigation was sparked by a lawsuit filed in May on behalf of former NFL players going back to 1968. The number of plaintiffs has grown to more than 1,200, including dozens who played as recently as 2012. Any violations of federal drug laws from 2009 forward could also become the subject of a criminal investigation because they would not be subject to the five-year statute of limitations.

"This is an unprecedented raid on a professional sports league," said Steve Silverman, one of the attorneys for the former players. "I trust the evidence reviewed and validated leading up to this action was substantial and compelling."

Federal prosecutors have conducted interviews in at least three cities over the past three weeks, spending two days in Los Angeles in late October meeting with a half-dozen former players — including at least two who were named plaintiffs in the painkillers lawsuit, according to multiple people with direct knowledge of the meetings who spoke on the condition of anonymity because prosecutors told them not to comment on the meetings.

The lawsuit alleges the NFL and its teams, physicians and trainers acted without regard for players' health, withholding information about injuries while at the same time handing out prescription painkillers such as Vicodin and Percocet, and anti-inflammatories such as Toradol, to mask pain and minimize lost playing time. The players contend some teams filled out prescriptions in players' names without their knowledge or consent, then dispensed those drugs — according to one plaintiff's lawyer — "like candy at Halloween," along with combining them in "cocktails."

Several former players interviewed by The Associated Press described the line of teammates waiting to get injections on game day often spilling out from the training room. Others



A football sits near the pylon marking the end zone as teams warms up before an NFL football game between the New York Giants and the San Francisco 49ers Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J.

Associated Press

recounted flights home from games where trainers walked down the aisle and players held up a number of fingers to indicate how many pills they wanted.

The controlled substance act says only doctors and nurse practitioners can dispense prescription drugs,

and only in states where they are licensed. The act also lays out stringent requirements for acquiring, labeling, storing and transporting drugs. Trainers who are not licensed would be in violation of the law simply by carrying a controlled substance.

The former players have reported a range of debilitating effects, from chronic muscle and bone ailments to permanent nerve and organ damage to addiction. They contend those health problems came from drug use, but many of the conditions haven't been definitively linked to painkillers.

The lawsuit is currently being heard in the northern district of California, where presiding judge William Alsup said he wants to hear the NFL Players Association's position on the case before deciding on the league's motion to dismiss. The NFL maintained that it's not responsible for the medical decisions of its 32 teams. League attorneys also argued the issue should be addressed by the union, which negotiated a collective bargaining agreement that covers player health.

The DEA investigation comes during a turbulent time for the NFL.

The league is still weathering criticism over its treatment of several players accused of domestic violence and just wrapped up an arbitration hearing involving Ravens running back Ray Rice, who is contesting the length of his suspension. □

Charley Hoffman rallies to win in Mexico



Charley Hoffman holds up his trophy after winning the OHL Classic at Mayacoba golf tournament in Playa del Carmen, Mexico, Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014.

Associated Press

PLAYA DEL CARMEN, Mexico (AP) — Charley Hoffman began to wonder if he would ever win another PGA Tour event. Even after he rallied to win the OHL Classic at Mayakoba on Sunday, he was reminded of how long it had been

when his wife and two young daughters joined in the celebration.

"My last win was when Claire was in my wife's stomach," Hoffman said with a smile.

That would be his oldest daughter, who just turned

4. Hoffman rallied from a three-shot deficit on the El Camaleon course, taking advantage of Danny Lee's mistakes on the back nine and Shawn Stefani failing to put any pressure on him at the very end.

Hoffman closed with a 5-under 66 after taking two putts for a bogey on the 18th. It was his third career victory. He had gone 105 starts between his first and second win, and this time went 108 starts until winning the final PGA Tour event of the calendar year.

"It was really nice to see them run out on the green and see the excitement on their face," Hoffman said. "We have been talking about it for a while. □

Review: Apple's iOS 8 provides a smarter type

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

I never would have considered writing this review on my iPhone if I hadn't upgraded to Apple's new operating system, iOS 8.

With the free upgrade, typing on the iPhone's touch keyboard doesn't seem as tedious, cumbersome or infuriating as it did before, when a rather dim-witted "auto-correct" system would slip in words that made people look illiterate or, even worse, inappropriate.

The new "QuickType" keyboard is smart enough to anticipate what you're typing, such as the next logical word in a phrase. You're constantly shown three word choices in a gray ribbon above the keyboard. When the right word appears, tapping on it automatically inserts it into the text to save keystrokes. I just avoided 15 by tapping on "automatically" and "keystrokes" when they popped up.

If that's not slick enough, iPhone and iPad users can choose one from an outside party, similar to what Google's Android operating system has allowed for years. A few are free, while others cost 99 cents to \$4.99.

Switching to a different keyboard just requires pressing on a small globe near the space bar, a tool that allowed me to use each one as I wrote about them for this review. I am focusing on the keyboards that I liked best, though I also experimented with several others, including Flesky (99 cents) and Textexpander (\$4.99).

— Apple's QuickType (free)
This keyboard strives to predict what words are being typed so you don't have to spend as much time pecking on your device. For the most part, QuickType fulfills that mission. It does a good job anticipating common words like "the" and "you," but also understands when to list words like "immolation." It also had no problem automatically filling



In this Nov. 14, 2014 photo, Associated Press reporter Michael Liedtke demonstrates the Swype keyboard on an Apple iPhone in San Francisco.

Associated Press

in email addresses when I was in my Gmail app or tagging people when I was on Facebook. These are common tasks, but the keyboards from outside parties couldn't consistently do them in my tests.

The most annoying aspect about QuickType and all the other keyboards is their inability to anticipate

punctuation marks. When I type, "As Mark Twain once said," I have to go back to add a comma after tapping on "said." If these keyboards were really smart, they would start to include words with punctuation among the choices.

— SwiftKey (free)
This seemed to be the most

intelligent of the keyboards that I tried. As promised, SwiftKey quickly picked up on my writing style and frequently used words.

When I was writing an email about New Orleans, SwiftKey smartly included "Quarter" among the choices after I typed "French." With your permission, SwiftKey also scans

posts on your Facebook page. It seemed to know my favorite sports teams right away. For instance, when I typed "Pittsburgh," it included "Steelers" among the choices for the next word.

SwiftKey is supposed to pay attention to each user's writing style to become ever-more clairvoyant as time goes on.

— Swype (99 cents)

The main appeal of this keyboard is a feature that inspired its name: the ability to enter text by swiping across the keyboard instead of tapping on keys.

This is especially useful for common punctuation. For instance, that comma and space were created with a swipe from the comma to the space bar. And how about this? That question mark was entered with a quick swipe down from the "m" key to the space bar. You're also supposed to be able to enter entire words by swiping around the keyboard, but I wasn't adroit enough to perfect the technique. □

Huge U.S. solar plant lags in early production



This Aug. 13, 2014 photo shows an array of mirrors at the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating site in Primm, Nev.

Associated Press

MICHAEL R. BLOOD

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The largest solar power plant of its type in the world — once promoted as a turning point in green energy — isn't producing as much energy as planned.

One of the reasons is as basic as it gets: The sun isn't shining as much as expected.

Sprawling across roughly 5 square miles (13 sq. kilometers) of U.S.-government desert near the California-Nevada border, the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System opened in February, with operators saying it would produce enough electricity to power a city of 140,000 homes. □

Feds say Web privacy firm deceived consumers

BRANDON BAILEY

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Federal regulators said a respected Internet privacy company gave its seal of approval to commercial websites and mobile apps but failed to check whether they were indeed meeting standards for safeguarding customers' data. The company known as TRUSTe describes itself as a leading independent authority on consumer privacy. But the Federal Trade Commission said it deceived consumers by not following through on annual reviews of websites and apps that carried its privacy seal. The FTC also said the San Francisco-based company let websites describe TRUSTe as a nonprofit service, even after it became a for-profit business in 2008.

"Seals and certifications are persuasive to consumers," the FTC said in a blog post, after announcing Monday that TRUSTe had agreed to a legal settlement in the case. "So it's important that representations conveyed by those remarks are truthful."

TRUSTe agreed to a legal settlement without admitting wrongdoing. It will pay \$200,000 to the FTC and file detailed reports on some of its practices in the future. In a company blog post, CEO Chris Babel said TRUSTe regrets not living up to "our own standards" but characterized the problems as isolated. He said the company conducted compliance reviews in a majority of cases.

The company's privacy seal is displayed by a variety of popular websites and mobile apps. □

S&P 500 ekes out record; DreamWorks sinks



Specialist Michael O'Mara looks at the board at his post on the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange Monday, Nov. 17, 2014. Allergan has reached a friendly deal to be acquired by Actavis PLC in a deal valued at \$66 billion, while Halliburton is buying rival oilfield services company Baker Hughes in a cash-and-stock deal worth \$34.6 billion.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

ALEX VEIGA AP Business Writer

Despite a day of mostly listless trading, the Standard & Poor's 500 index managed to notch another all-time high. The index on Monday inched past its most recent record-high close set on Fri-

day, extending its gain for the year to 10.4 percent. The Dow Jones industrial average also ended higher after briefly eclipsing its most recent high. The Nasdaq composite ended lower. The latest milestone for the S&P 500 came on a day

when the major U.S. stock indexes mostly hovered between small gains and losses as investors weighed the implications of an economic slowdown in Japan that worsened in the third quarter into a recession. Energy stocks fell as the price of crude oil resumed its slide.

"Japan definitely started us on a bit of a negative tone with the economy back into recession," said Chris Gaffney, senior market strategist at EverBank Wealth Management.

The major stock indexes started off in negative territory early Monday as the markets reacted to data showing the world's third-largest economy unexpectedly shrank at a 1.6 percent annual pace in the third quarter after contracting 7.1 percent the previous quarter.

Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei stock index lost 3 percent. U.S. markets veered lower much of the morning. By afternoon, though, stocks began to pare some their losses as traders cheered several pieces of corporate deal news.

Shares in Botox-maker Allergan and oilfield services company Baker Hughes were among the biggest gainers.

In the end, the S&P rose 1.50 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,041.32. That's just ahead of its previous all-time high close of 2,039.82 on Friday. The Dow gained 13.01

points, or 0.1 percent, to 17,647.75. The Nasdaq composite fell 17.54 points, or 0.4 percent, to 4,671.

The three major stock indexes are up for the year. Stocks have been mostly rising since Oct. 15, when the S&P 500 nearly fell into a "correction," a trading term for a drop of 10 percent or more from a recent peak.

Generally strong corporate earnings results and solid U.S. economic data have helped blunt the impact of global economic uncertainty. News that Japan is in a recession stoked those fears once again, but the impact on the market was tempered, given the day's narrow trading range, noted Sean Lynch, managing director of global equity research and strategy for Wells Fargo Private Bank.

"The U.S. economy is a consumption-driven economy," Lynch said. "The U.S. is in pretty good footing here as we head into the last month of the year."

Six of the 10 sectors in the S&P 500 ended lower, with energy stocks falling most. □

Halliburton buying Baker Hughes in \$34.6B deal

JONATHAN FAHEY AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — In a deal that shows just how quickly falling prices can upend the energy industry, Halliburton is buying rival oilfield services company Baker Hughes in a cash-and-stock deal worth \$34.6 billion.

Global oil prices have tumbled 31 percent over the past 5 months to levels not seen in four years. That has forced the industry cut costs by delaying or scaling back drilling — which means less work for Halliburton and Baker Hughes, companies that manage oil and gas fields for energy companies.

Even when prices were high, oil and gas companies had begun to slow capital spending and new drilling as rising costs cut into profit margins. Energy

companies now have even less to spend.

Halliburton Chairman and CEO Dave Lesar said Monday that the combined company will be able to reduce costs by \$2 billion a

year.

The oil plunge also lowered the price tag on Baker Hughes. Baker Hughes shares have slumped 32 percent, reducing the company's market capi-

talization by \$10.4 billion between late June and Thursday, when news of a potential deal sent shares higher.

More energy deals may be in the works as companies with stronger balance sheets buy those that have seen their value drop precipitously, as well as drilling rights or other assets. In a recent conference call with investors, ExxonMobil hinted that it may be a good time to use its considerable cash position to buy undervalued assets.

Halliburton will pay \$78.62 per Baker Hughes Inc. share, a 31 percent premium to its Friday closing price of \$59.89. Baker Hughes shareholders will receive 1.12 Halliburton shares plus \$19 in cash for each share they own.

When the transaction is complete, Baker Hughes

stockholders will own approximately 36 percent of the combined company.

The deal comes just days after talks between the two had stalled. Baker Hughes said Friday that Halliburton refused to raise its first and only offer and Halliburton was preparing to attempt a hostile takeover.

The combined company would generate slightly larger revenue than Schlumberger Ltd., now the world's biggest oil services company.

"The combined entity would not have the breadth or depth of Schlumberger," wrote Judson Bailey, an analyst at Wells Fargo in a research report before the deal was agreed to. But, "we do believe (Halliburton-Baker Hughes) creates a more formidable number two competitor in several areas." □



A worker passes a truck owned by Halliburton at a remote site for natural-gas producer Williams in Rulison, Colo. Halliburton is buying rival oilfield services company Baker Hughes in a cash-and-stock deal worth \$34.6 billion, according to reports, on Monday, Nov. 17, 2014. The deal comes shortly after talks had stalled and Halliburton prepared to go hostile with its takeover bid.

(AP Photo/David Zalubowski)

The Upshot: Why more diversity on Wall Street might fight bubbles

NEIL IRWIN

© 2014 New York Times

Would more racial diversity on Wall Street make financial bubbles less likely to develop?

That's the intriguing possibility raised by an experiment that helps explain what factors lead markets to become subject to speculative booms and busts. And while its answers are far from definitive in offering conclusions for the world as a whole, at the least they offer a fascinating study in bubble-ology, or why markets seem so perpetually prone to excess.

In a paper published Monday by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Sheen S. Levine of Columbia University and five collaborators describe an experiment they conducted in New York and Singapore.

They trained a bunch of people (180 in all, in 30 different runs of the experiment) who had a background in finance in how to calculate the value of imaginary shares of stock, and tested them to make sure they all had similar analytical abilities. Then they had the traders buy and sell the shares among themselves, with each trader's pretend profits in the simulation to be paid out as real cash.

The twist: In some of the simulations, the traders were all of the same, majority ethnicity (whites in the New York version). In others, the group of traders was ethnically diverse (the New York experiment included African-Americans and Latinos).

The results were striking. In the markets with ethnic diversity, prices became 21 percent more accurate, relative to the fundamentals of the stocks, as trading proceeded. But in the homogenous markets, pricing accuracy declined 33 percent over the course of the simulation.

In other words, when a bunch of white guys are trading among themselves, they are more likely to drive prices to irrational levels than when there is more diversity among their trading partners. To phrase it differently, people are more likely to trust that others who look like them will not try to put one over, and assume that a price they are asking for a security must be reasonable.

It is a bit like a car buyer taking it as a given that a seller of the same ethnicity is offering a car at a fair price, but checking the blue book value if the seller is of a different ethnicity.

Conversely, in the trading experiment, traders were more skeptical when operating in a more diverse environment, applying better analysis and logic.

This conclusion meshes with other research that in many business circumstances, it pays to have people who look at the world through different lenses and are likely to be skeptical and questioning of each other's ideas, as opposed to succumbing to group-think.

It is a paradox of managing all types of institutions: You want people who will collaborate well together, but bring enough different perspectives that they will challenge each other to arrive at better decisions. As the authors of the paper write: "The presence of more than one ethnicity fosters greater scrutiny and more deliberate thinking, which can lead to better outcomes. Such friction, however, can cause conflict and complicate collective decisions."

And that's a lesson you don't have to work on a trading floor to understand.

Actavis to spend \$66B on Allergan

DAVID GELLES

© 2014 New York Times

Allergan, the maker of Botox, has resisted selling itself to another company for most of the year. On Monday, however, it agreed to be acquired for \$66 billion by Actavis, another big drugmaker.

The deal, worth \$219 a share in cash and stock, presents a monumental roadblock for Valeant Pharmaceuticals International and hedge fund manager William A. Ackman, the unlikely consortium that teamed up in April to start what became a hostile bid for Allergan.

After seven months of bids, bluster and lawsuits, Vale-

denced by our third-quarter results, our expected strong fourth quarter, and our robust outlook for 2015, and I am confident in our continued ability to generate exceptional shareholder value," Pearson added. Actavis appears poised to make its biggest deal ever, and the biggest acquisition in a year full of big deals, eclipsing the \$45 billion Comcast takeover of Time Warner Cable and AT&T's \$48.5 billion purchase of DirecTV. It would be the third-largest health care deal in the United States, according to Standard & Poor's Capital IQ.

Actavis was until recently based in Parsippany,

sions to find tax savings.

But because Actavis has already completed its move abroad, it is exempt from the new Treasury Department rules, and will be able to pay fewer taxes on Allergan's international sales and use Allergan's overseas cash to help finance the deal. Actavis already took advantage of its newfound financial flexibility as an Irish company this year when it acquired Forest Laboratories.

Combining Actavis and Allergan will create one of the 10 largest global drugmakers, with about \$23 billion in revenues expected next year. Cost savings could total \$1.8 billion an-



This photo shows a vial of Botox, made by Allergan, in Beverly Hills, Calif. Pharmaceutical giant Actavis on Monday, Nov. 17, 2014 announced it is paying \$66 billion to buy fellow drugmaker Allergan in a deal that could finally end a months-long takeover battle waged by Valeant Pharmaceuticals for the Botox maker.

(AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes)

ant and Ackman's firm, Pershing Square Capital Management, appeared to be throwing in the towel on their efforts to buy Allergan. In a statement after the announcement of the Actavis deal, Valeant's chief executive, J. Michael Pearson, said, "While we will review any such agreement in determining our course of action, Valeant cannot justify to its own shareholders paying a price of \$219 or more per share for Allergan."

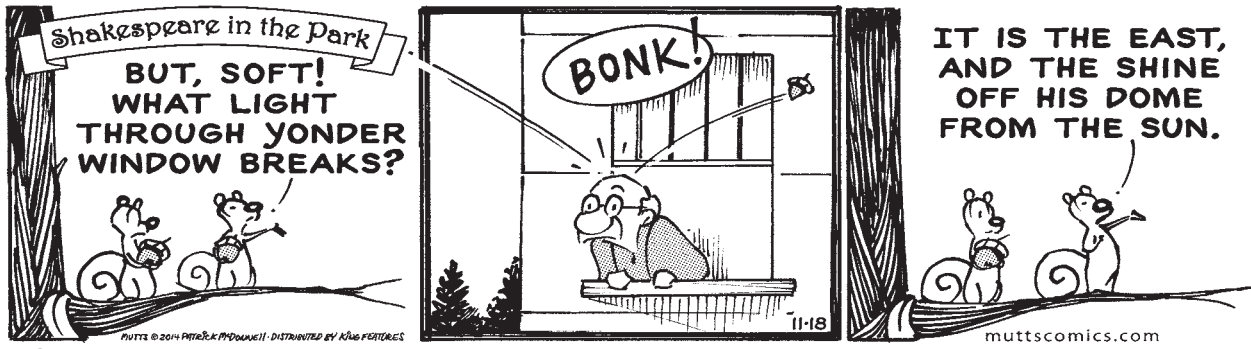
"Our business is performing extremely well as evi-

New Jersey. But last year it agreed to acquire an Irish drugmaker, Warner Chilcott, and relocate its headquarters abroad, striking one of the first big so-called inversions. Actavis' deal to move abroad and reduce its tax bill caught the attention of other drug companies, and set off a rush of similar deals. Soon the exodus of big corporations was drawing scorn from regulators in Washington, and in September the Treasury Department passed new rules to make it harder for companies that strike inver-

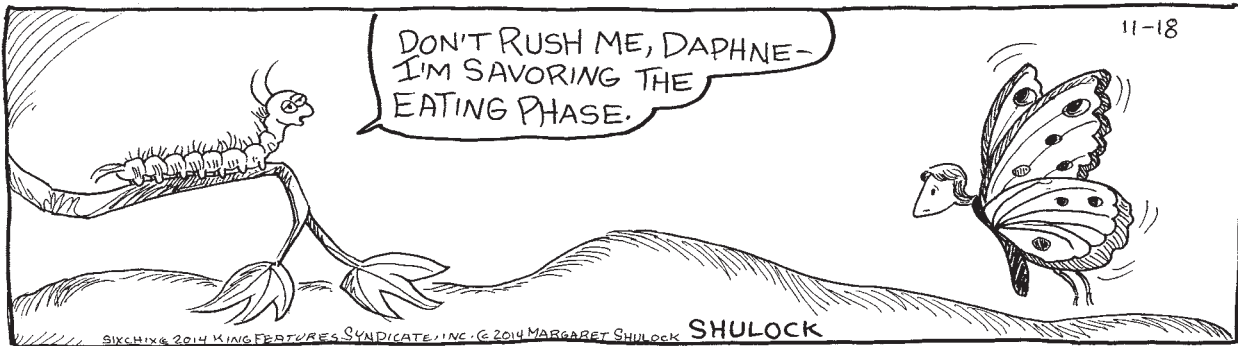
nally, the companies said. The deal will combine Allergan's blockbuster product, Botox, with a suite of Actavis drugs in areas such as women's health and dermatology.

Allergan shareholders will receive \$129.22 in cash and 0.3683 of an Actavis share for each unit of their stock. The price represents about a 54 percent increase over Allergan's price before Valeant and Pershing Square began their takeover effort, and a more than doubling of the share price over the last year.

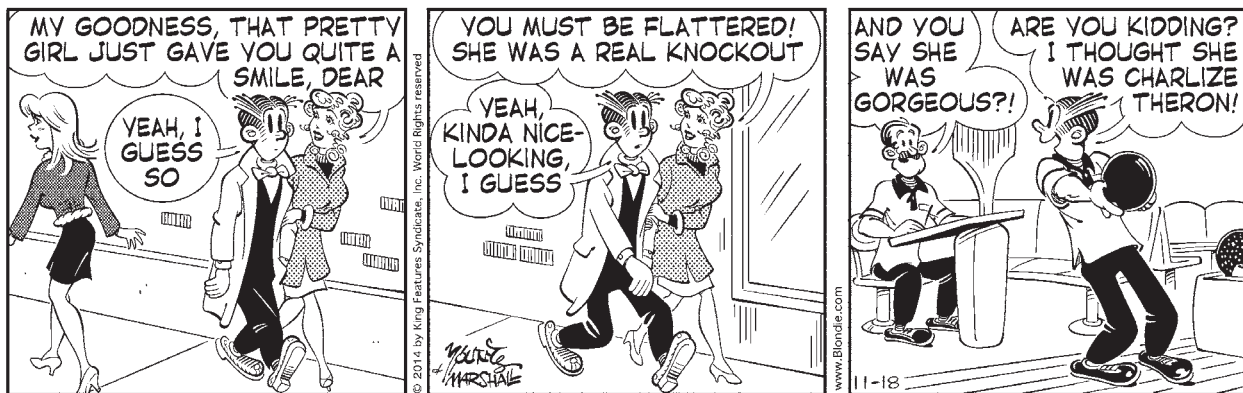
Mutts



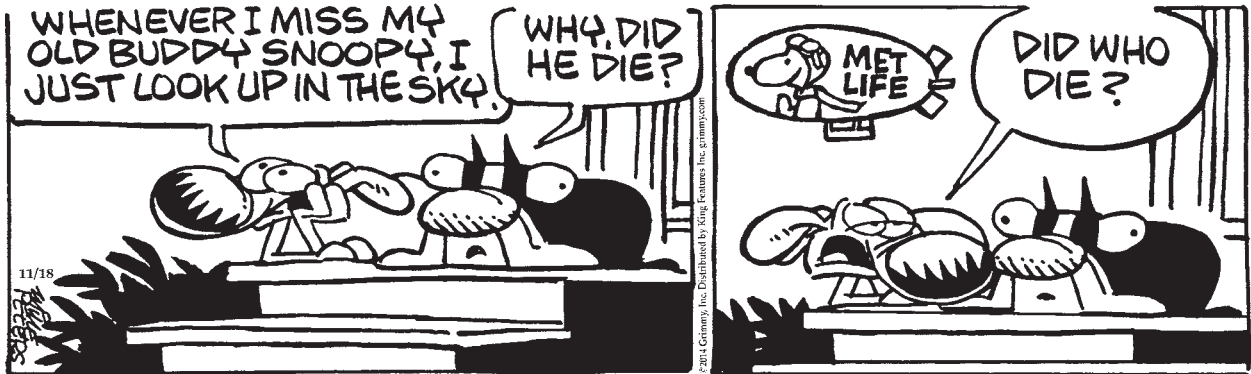
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	1				9		7	
9					6			5
		8	4	1				
		7			1		4	6
		2		5		1		
5	4		3			2		
				7	8	9		
6			1					3
	7		2				8	

Difficulty Level ★★

11/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

7	6	4	5	8	1	2	9	3
8	2	9	6	7	3	1	5	4
1	5	3	2	9	4	7	8	6
9	1	6	3	2	7	5	4	8
4	7	8	1	5	6	3	2	9
5	3	2	9	4	8	6	7	1
6	8	5	7	3	9	4	1	2
2	9	1	4	6	5	8	3	7
3	4	7	8	1	2	9	6	5

Difficulty Level ★

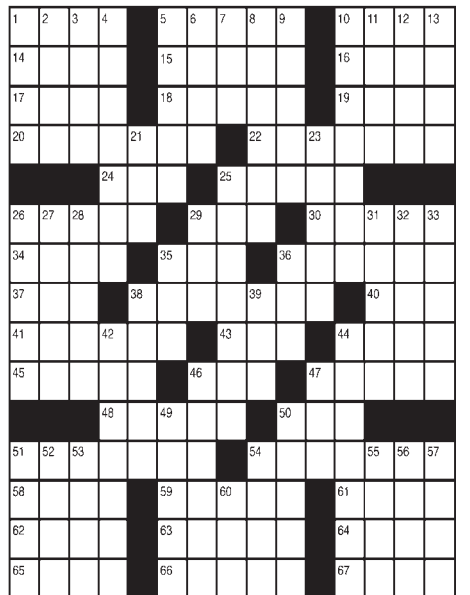
11/17

ACROSS

- Sign of a past surgery
- African nation
- Cushy
- Ripped
- Passenger
- Leg joint
- Charitable donation
- Stay away from
- tea
- Set aside for later use
- Athena or Aphrodite
- Negative vote
- Tear to bits
- Very windy
- Faux __; social blunder
- Hippie greeting
- for; chooses
- Plato's "T"
- Walk unsteadily
- As red __ beet
- Civil case
- __ tai; rum cocktail
- American __; veterans' group
- Conjunction
- Get up
- Flower stalks
- In the past
- Silences
- Come together
- Part of Santa that kids sit on
- Neighbor of Libya
- Nab
- Money lent
- __ than; besides
- "Put __ shut up!"
- Lawn trees
- Express gratitude to
- Lion's cry
- Delight
- Sprinkles at the table
- Wraps up

DOWN

- Night twinkler



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

11/18/14

Monday's Puzzle Solved

CUP	SIGHS	CLAD
OPEN	TROOP	LOGE
YORE	RABBI	IRON
NUTRITION	EDGY	
TAKE	NUN	
STRIPE	PRISTINE	
POINT	CHINATON	
LONG	PRONG	RAID
ITS	FRANK	PULSE
THEOLOGY	MISLED	
BUD	WITH	
ACME	IMPASSIVE	
CLAY	GUIDE	NERD
TALE	ALTER	GAGA
SPED	LEADS	LOY

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11/18/14

- Family card game
- Huge
- Burst
- Mystery writer
- Christie
- Atlas page
- Street uprisings
- Songbirds
- Costs an arm and
- Lounge about
- Chess or poker
- Penny
- Sitting __; atop
- Highway
- Goofs
- Actor Holbrook

Hellmann's tweaks site in 'mayonnaise' spat

CANDICE CHOI
AP Food Industry Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Hellmann's mayonnaise has some egg on its face. After suing a small California company for calling its eggless product "Just Mayo," Hellmann's maker Unilever tweaked its websites to make clear that some of its own products are not exactly mayonnaise either. Unilever's suit accuses Hampton Creek, the maker of Just Mayo, of false advertising because its product has no eggs and therefore doesn't meet the definition for mayonnaise. The suit says the word mayo implies the product is mayonnaise, and that Just Mayo is "stealing market share from Hellmann's." Michele Simon, a public health lawyer, said she was discussing the case with Hampton Creek's founder this Friday when they noticed customer reviews on Unilever's websites for Hellmann's and Best Foods were being changed to describe some products as "mayonnaise dressing" rather than "mayonnaise." The Unilever products in question do not have enough vegetable oil to qualify as mayonnaise. "They were changing right before our eyes," Simon said. The sites had also been changed to make "Canola Cholesterol Free Mayonnaise" into "Canola Cholesterol Free Mayonnaise Dressing." Mike Faherty, vice presi-



This product image provided by Unilever shows Hellmann's real mayonnaise. Hellmann's owner Unilever on Oct. 31, 2014 filed a lawsuit against a California company that uses the word "Mayo" in its sandwich spread name, saying that federal regulators and dictionaries define mayonnaise as a spread that contains eggs. (AP Photo/Unilever)

dent of foods for Unilever North America, said the company decided to make the changes after the issues were raised in a letter from Hampton Creek on Nov. 4. In retrospect, Faherty said Unilever should've taken down the customer comments in question, rather than editing them. As for the Canola Cholesterol Free Mayonnaise Dressing, Faherty said the company didn't have to add the word "dressing" since the "cholesterol free" modifier already signals to people that the product is not mayonnaise. He said Unilever decided to "provide even more of a qualifier than we need to." Faherty said Unilever's website changes were

a "side issue" to the real problem — Just Mayo's labeling. In addition to the name, Faherty called out the image of a giant egg with a pea shoot inside it on Just Mayo's jars, which he said makes people think there's egg in the product. "My mom and your mom are shopping for Thanksgiving right now, and there's a false label in the mayonnaise category," Faherty said. "Their label right now should be 'Just Not Mayo'." He said Unilever, based in the Netherlands, is open to settling the matter through talks, but that the company hasn't heard back from Hampton Creek. Josh Tetrick, founder Hampton Creek, said he has been in talks with the Food and Drug Administration over the situation. □

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November 18
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24/7

Study suggests genetic link for male homosexuality

LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — A large study of gay brothers adds to evidence that genes influence men's chances of being homosexual, but the results aren't strong enough to prove it. Some scientists believe several genes might affect sexual orientation. Researchers who led the new study of nearly 800 gay brothers say their results bolster previous evidence pointing to genes on the X chromosome.

They also found evidence of influence from a gene or genes on a different chromosome. But the study doesn't identify which of hundreds of genes located in either place might be involved. Smaller studies seeking genetic links to homosexuality have had mixed results. The new evidence "is not proof but it's a pretty good indication" that genes on the two chromosomes



have some influence over sexual orientation, said Dr. Alan Sanders, the lead author. He studies behavioral genetics at NorthShore University HealthSystem Research Institute in Evanston, Illinois.

Experts not involved in the study were more skeptical. Neil Risch, a genetics expert at the University of California, San Francisco, said the data are statistically too weak to demonstrate



In this Aug. 28, 2007, file photo, Mauricio Cabrera, left, poses at his former home in Olathe, Kan.; and in this Aug. 20, 2007, file photo, Julio Cabrera poses in a local park in Chicago.

Associated Press

any genetic link. Risch was involved in a smaller study that found no link between male homosexuality and chromosome X. Dr. Robert Green, a medical geneticist at Harvard Medical School, called the new study "intriguing but not in any way conclusive."

The work was published Monday by the journal Psychological Medicine. The National Institutes of Health

paid for the research.

The researchers say they found potential links to male homosexuality in a portion of chromosome X and on chromosome 8, based on an analysis of genetic material in blood or saliva samples from participants.

Chromosome X is one of two human sex chromosomes; the other is chromosome Y, present only in men.

The study authors note that animal research suggests a gene located in one region of chromosome X may contribute to some sexual behavior; it's one of the same regions cited in the new study.

Specific causes of homosexuality are unknown. Some scientists think social, cultural, family and biological factors are involved, while some religious groups consider it an immoral choice.

Study participant Dr. Chad Zawitz, a Chicago physician, called the research "a giant step forward" toward answering scientific questions about homosexuality and helping reduce the stigma gays often face. Being gay "is sort of like having certain eye color or skin color — it's just who you are," Zawitz said.

"Most heterosexuals I know didn't choose to be heterosexual.

It's puzzling to me why people don't understand." □

Study: Polar bears disappearing from key region

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A key polar bear population fell nearly by half in the past decade, a new U.S.-Canada study found, with scientists seeing a dramatic increase in young cubs starving and dying. Researchers chiefly blame shrinking sea ice from global warming. Scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey and Environment Canada captured, tagged and released polar bears in the southern Beaufort Sea from 2001 to 2010. The bear population shrank to about 900 in 2010, down from about 1,600 in 2004. That area is one of two main U.S. polar bear regions.

"These estimates suggest to me that the habitat is getting less stable for polar bears," said study lead author Jeff Bromaghin, a USGS statistician.

Wildlife biologist Steve Amstrup, who started the study for the USGS and left to become chief scientist at the conservation group Polar Bear International, said his early research in the 1980s found about 1,800 polar bears in the region.

"The habitat was profoundly different by the late 1990s, early 2000s," said Amstrup, a co-author of the study in the journal Ecological Applications. Bromaghin said only two of 80 polar bear cubs the team tracked between

2004 and 2007 survived. Normally about half of cubs live.

"We suspect that they are

dying of starvation," Bromaghin said.

In this part of the Arctic, there used to be more sea



This handout photo provided by the US Geological Survey, taken in 2005, shows a male polar bear approaching biologists in Beaufort Sea, Alaska.

Associated Press

ice in the summer; that's where seals lived, and seals are what bears ate. With limited access to the seals, the cubs probably starved, he said.

Arctic summer sea ice had been declining since the late 1970s but "we've seen over the past decade, decade-and-a-half, the rate of decline has really accelerated," said Mark Serreze, director of the National Snow and Ice Data Center in Colorado. And 2007 was "a wake-up call" for scientists because sea ice shrank to a low scientists had not expected or seen before. Sea ice levels dropped even lower in 2012 and have recovered a tad since. □

Bono hurts arm in cycling accident

NEW YORK (AP) — U2 frontman Bono has injured his arm while riding a bicycle in New York City.

A posting on the band's website Sunday says Bono "injured his arm in a cycling spill in Central Park" and will require surgery to repair it.

The posting by guitarist The Edge, bassist Adam Clayton and drummer Larry Mullen did not say when or how the accident happened.

The bandmates also said they'll have to reschedule their planned weeklong appearance on NBC's "Tonight Show" with Jimmy Fallon. An NBC spokesperson confirmed that U2, which had been booked to appear every day this week, had pulled out due to the accident.

Just last week, German au-



This March 7, 2014, file photo shows Bono speaking to delegates during the European People's Party Elections Congress at the convention center, Dublin, Ireland.

Associated Press

thorities said Bono's private plane lost a hatch as it was coming in for a landing at Berlin's airport.

Cumberbatch 'bowled over' by engagement reaction

LAURI NEFF

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Benedict Cumberbatch fans might be weeping on the inside over the "Sherlock" star's engagement — but he's seeing nothing but their love, he says.

"It's a crazy old love bomb to drop and the amount of love that comes back to you, that was the thing that (fiancee Sophie Hunter and I) are both just sort of bowled over by. It's wonderful."

Cumberbatch and Hunter announced their engagement by posting an eight-line notice on the births, deaths and marriages page of The Times newspaper in London on Nov. 5.

The 38-year old actor says

he and Hunter liked the old-school approach and says even if he wasn't famous he would have been "equally happy to announce my marriage to the most incredible woman I've ever met" in the same way. "It was controlling it and letting the world know but in a quiet and sort of sober and traditional manner."

The pair met while appearing together in the 2009 thriller "Burlesque Fairytale."

Cumberbatch spoke at a special screening for "Penguins of Madagascar" on Sunday night, in which he voices the character of a super spy wolf, opening in theaters Nov. 26. He also stars in "The Imita-



Benedict Cumberbatch attends the premiere of "Penguins of Madagascar" on Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014 in New York.

Associated Press

tion Game," about code-breaking genius Alan Turing, which opens on Nov. 28.

Disney to help New York theatergoers with tickets



This file photo released by the Disney Theatrical Group shows, from left, Nathaniel Stampley as Mufasa, Tshidi Manye as Rafiki, and Jean Michelle Grier as Sarabi, in Disney's "The Lion King."

Associated Press

MARK KENNEDY

AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Disney is giving an early Christmas present to theatergoers in New York — the gift of flexibility.

Disney Theatrical Productions is letting ticketholders to its Broadway shows — "Aladdin" and "The Lion King" — the chance to switch the dates they see the musicals for any reason as long as it's done two

hours before the performance.

The offer, unprecedented for the commercial part of Broadway, starts immediately. Usually such flexibility with tickets on the Great White Way has been restricted to nonprofit theaters.

"Our aim is to empower ticketholders with an unprecedented level of flexibility so that they can make their plans in ad-

vance knowing there are options if they need to change their schedule," said David Schrader, a Disney executive.

Tickets can be exchanged at the original point of purchase via the Disney on Broadway hotline, Ticketmaster or in-person at the New Amsterdam or Minskoff theater box offices. The exchange applies

only for another performance of the show originally purchased. A \$12 per ticket fee will be charged. Exchanges will be valued at the same price as the original face value of the first ticket, though patrons can upgrade to a better seat and pay the difference. Exchanges are subject to blackout dates, but there is no limit to the number of times the tickets can be exchanged.



In this May 19, 2005 file photo, radio documentarian Dave Isay stands next to one of two StoryCorps Airstream trailers outfitted with recording studios in Washington.

Associated Press

Oral history backer Dave Isay wins TED Prize

NEW YORK (AP) — The founder of the oral history project StoryCorps has received a \$1 million award.

Dave Isay has won the 10th annual TED Prize, announced Monday by the organization known for sponsoring talks focused on technology, entertainment and design. The award is given to an "exceptional" person who will in turn create a "high-impact project." Previous winners include U2 singer Bono, author Dave Eggers and biologist E.O. Wilson.

StoryCorps was founded by Isay in 2003. It has compiled tens of thousands of interviews with people from a wide range of backgrounds. Some interviews have been aired on National Public Radio's "Morning Edition." All are stored at the Library of Congress.



This April 2, 2013 file image released by the O+M Company shows Elaine Stritch performing her final engagement at the Cafe Carlyle in New York with Rob Bowman at the piano.

Associated Press

Elaine Stritch given a starry Broadway tribute

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Actors Nathan Lane, Bernadette Peters, Laura Benanti and Holland Taylor and writer Liz Smith lead a tearful and raucous tribute Monday to Elaine Stritch, the funny and irascible theater star who put the broad in Broadway.

"This event would have pleased her to no end because, for one, it's all about her," deadpanned Lane, who called her "a brilliant force of nature" and hoped she was in "God's house seats."

The show, "Everybody, Rise! A Celebration of Elaine Stritch," was directed by George C. Wolfe at The Al Hirschfeld Theatre. Stritch died July 17 at her home in Birmingham, Michigan, at age 89. From the stage, Stritch's friends and colleagues told stories of her dogged refusal to pay for theater tickets, her generosity with her time and her knack for accessorizing her outfits with high-end department store bags. Director and producer Hal Prince said: "I don't know how originals originate but I expect she was born one."

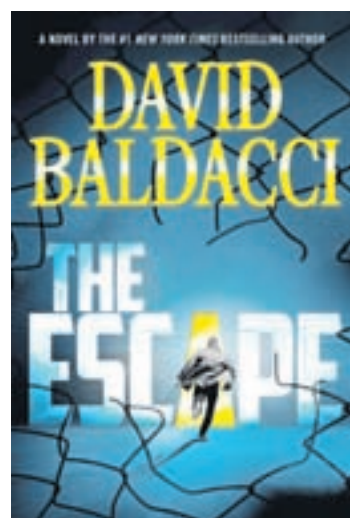
Peters, Benanti, Christine Ebersole, Betty Buckley, Michael Feinstein and Lena Hall, who wore black tights, a floppy hat and a white shirt in honor of Stritch's best known outfit, all performed songs from the icon's catalog, including "Broadway Baby" and "You're Just in Love."

Benanti told the story of

first meeting Stritch when she was 18 and Stritch, a diabetic, was testing her blood sugar level, making Benanti faint. "Well, you know how to make an entrance," Stritch told her when she awoke.

Buckley credited Stritch with teaching her to show "just the right amount of naughty." □

David Baldacci's new novel thrills _ and tugs at heart



This book cover image released by Grand Central Publishing shows "The Escape," by David Baldacci.

Associated Press

WAKA TSUNODA

Associated Press

One of the most compelling characters in David Baldacci's thrillers is John Puller, a crackerjack investigator of military crimes. In "The Forgotten" and "Zero Day," readers learned that Puller has an older brother, Robert, who is serving a life sentence for treason. In "The Escape," Baldacci reveals the reason for Robert's imprisonment.

The story begins on a stormy night in Kansas. There's a major power failure at Robert's maximum security prison. The computer-controlled cell doors unlock and inmates come

pouring out into the darkness. Robert escapes, leaving an unidentified dead man in his cell.

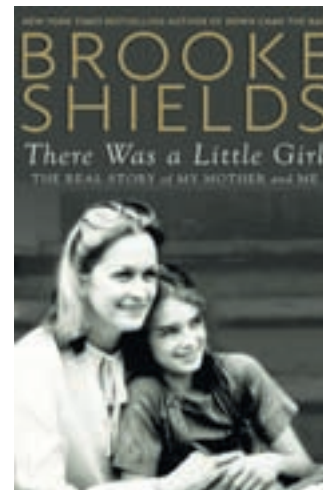
Robert's disappearance unnerves authorities because he's an expert in nuclear weaponry and cybersecurity. They ask Puller to find his brother and return him to prison.

As he works to accomplish this mission, Puller discovers the U.S. intelligence community is full of its own spies — and those working for its enemies.

Twists and turns come fast and furious in the best Baldacci tradition.

"The Escape" is much more than a thriller. □

Brooke Shields writes of life with her mother



This image released by Dutton shows the cover of the book, "There Was a Little Girl: The Real Story of My Mother and Me," by Brooke Shields.

Associated Press

KIM CURTIS

Associated Press

"There Was a Little Girl: The Real Story of My Mother and Me" (Dutton), by Brooke Shields.

Brooke Shields, the iconic model-actress-Princeton grad, entered the literary scene in 2005 with her memoir about postpartum depression. This time, she sheds light on the relationship she shared with her mother, and it's a well-crafted and insightful read from beginning to end.

It would be a shame to dismiss "There Was a Little Girl" as a celebrity tell-all. Instead, it's a thoughtful, poignant and provoking story about a girl and her mom prompted by a New York Times obituary written shortly after Teri Shields' death in 2012.

"If this dead 79-year-old woman could elicit such a vehement response and vicious reaction so many years after her prominence in the public eye," Brooke Shields writes in the prologue, "there was something there that needed to be explored."

What follows is a remarkably clear-eyed examination of a mother crippled by alcoholism and a daughter torn by taking care of herself, her prolific and profitable career and her mom. Rather than buoy the public's preconceptions about a child forced too young to star in Louis Malle's "Pretty Baby" and advertise Calvin Klein jeans, Shields portrays her work as her only safe refuge. "The movie business kept me afloat and sane," she writes. "My mother's drinking superseded my stardom. ... I craved opportunity and I craved my mother's sobriety. I never understood the connection between the two."

The chapters in which Shields describes Teri's death in vivid detail is particularly heartbreaking as we watch her experience a full range of emotion, including anger, sadness and regret. Yes, as a teenager, she met Andy Warhol at Studio 54, and, yes, she befriended Michael Jackson, dated John Travolta and fell in love with George Michael and others. But she never sugarcoats her mother's behavior nor hers. She delves into her own failed relationships as well as her weaknesses and insecurities, and, in the end, we see her simply as one of us. □

Net Neutrality Rules



JOE NOCERA

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Is there anybody out there who opposes net neutrality?

Net neutrality, of course, is the principle that calls for the Internet to remain free and open - with no "fast lanes" that would allow some content providers to take priority over others. This week, Washington was buzzing with talk about net neutrality, yet out-and-out critics were hard to find.

President Barack Obama, of course, is in favor of net neutrality; indeed, he started this whole kerfuffle when the White House released a short video Monday in which the president called on the Federal Communications Commission to "implement the strongest possible rules to protect net neutrality." Tom Wheeler, the former cable industry lobbyist who is the chairman of the FCC, also wants net neutrality. So do the big Internet companies like Netflix and Google, the ones that might have to pay Internet service providers, or ISPs, to get on a fast lane if such a thing existed. (That's called "paid prioritization.") Net neutrality is favored by lots of small Internet companies - the kind that might not have the means to pay for prioritization - and dozens of public interest groups, too. When the FCC asked for comments on net neutrality, it received an astonishing 3.7 million replies, a vast majority urging the commission to embrace it.

Even some Internet service providers say they agree with the goals of net neutrality. After Obama's video was released, Comcast, the biggest of them all, said that it agreed with almost everything the president called for.

Alas, the key word in the previous sentence is "almost." In his video remarks, Obama was surprisingly specific about what he hoped Wheeler and the FCC would do: apply Title II of the 1996 Telecommunications Act to the ISPs like Comcast, AT&T, Verizon and Time Warner Cable. Title II would reclassify these companies as akin to public utilities - like the old telephone company - and would regulate them as such.

Although the president insisted that many of the more onerous parts of Title II - like price regulation - could be held in

abeyance, the ISPs dread the thought of being regulated under Title II. They would prefer to be regulated under another part of the Telecommunications Act, Section 706, which calls for a lighter touch.

Then there is the question of what, exactly, net neutrality entails. Does it include only "the last mile" - that is, the relationship between the ISP and the Internet user? Or does it also include "interconnection" - the point at which a content company like Netflix joins the ISP's network and begins its journey to the customer? Currently, Netflix pays a fee to four big ISPs to gain uncongested access to their networks. Not surprisingly, Netflix says that net neutrality means it shouldn't have to pay this fee. Comcast and its ISP brethren disagree. One reason federal net neutrality rules have been so difficult to achieve is that, in the past, when the FCC has tried to regulate the ISPs without using a Title II designation, it has had its head handed to it in the courts. The courts have essentially ruled that without that classification, the FCC lacks the authority to apply rules that would ensure net neutrality. Thus it was that a few weeks ago, The Wall Street Journal published a story reporting that Wheeler had a compromise idea: Use Title II to regulate the back end - the point where Netflix accesses Comcast's network - and use Section 706 for the front end, where the consumer is. It is generally assumed that the FCC leaked Wheeler's "hybrid" idea as a trial balloon. The balloon, however, was quickly burst. Net neutrality advocates didn't think it went far enough, while the ISPs thought it went too far. At which point, the president decided to weigh in. Wheeler may or may not take the president's suggestion - he doesn't have to, as the FCC is an independent agency - but, at a minimum, new net neutrality rules, which the agency has been trying to accomplish for a half-dozen years, will be delayed again. And whatever the FCC decides, there will surely be a new round of lawsuits. Sigh. Net neutrality is demonstrably a good thing, and it needs to be enshrined in law, not just done in good faith as it is now. The real problem is with the law itself: It was never meant to regulate broadband. Title II is too blunt an instrument, while Section 706 doesn't give the FCC enough authority. That's why the agency has seemed to be dancing on the head of a pin as it tries to come up with net neutrality rules that will pass muster.

Of course, there is another way to accomplish net neutrality. Congress could pass a law that allowed the FCC to write net neutrality rules - but went no further.

Yeah, right. Better keep dancing, Chairman Wheeler. □



Congress Extends Itself



GAIL COLLINS

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Let's play: So You Think You Can Make Tax Policy!

Really, it's going to be exciting. Along the way we will get to discuss the latest exploits of the billionaire Koch brothers, machinations by possible presidential hopeful Paul Ryan, and gossip about at least one entertainment celebrity.

One of the very, very few things the current Congress seems determined to deal with before it vanishes into the night is the problem of "tax extenders." Extenders are strange but much-loved little financial mutants. Sort of like hobbits or three-legged kittens. Congress, in its wisdom, has created a raft of temporary tax breaks for everybody from teachers to banks that make money overseas. Most are really intended to be permanent. But calling them short-term measures tricks the Congressional Budget Office into underestimating how much they cost.

"If you pass a new tax cut, you've got to find offsetting spending cuts. But these are in a sense free," said Howard Gleckman of the Tax Policy Center.

It's just a matter of thinking proactively. Sort of like the much-repeated TMZ report that Britney Spears' new boyfriend was asked to sign a confidentiality agreement before their first meeting.

So. A pile of these temporary breaks have expired. Do you want them extended?

The Koch brothers say no! At least when it comes to the

ones that help alternative energy companies compete with the Koch fossil-fuel energy companies. Particularly tax breaks for wind. The Koch brothers really, really hate wind power. Maybe it's because they're from Kansas. Where you and I see a prairie, they see a competitor.

It's been quite a week for our favorite American oligarchs. Their team won control of the Senate and a raft of state governments. The lame-duck Congress devoted much of the week to a bill encouraging the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline. Which connects the tar sand oil fields in Canada to the Texas refineries. The Koch brothers happened to be big investors when it comes to tar sands. Already, we have one argument in favor of extending the tax breaks. Thwart Koches! This year, members of the Senate Finance Committee made a bipartisan decision to throw up their hands and just extend everything. Meanwhile, Democrats and Republicans agreed, they would work together on a grand tax reform package. Hehehehe.

Never going to happen. When Republicans think about tax reform, they think of reducing the top rate for individuals and corporations from the current 39.6 percent to 25 percent. This is absolutely impossible, unless you are prepared to see the deficit soar like an overcaffeinated salmon. Many Republicans believe they can get around this problem with "dynamic scoring." This is based on a popular idea, much like the one about the tooth fairy, which presumes that tax cuts are going to create an explosion of economic activity that will replace all the lost revenue. Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback was following that theory when he cut taxes in his state dramatically, thus ushering in an exciting new era of exploding deficits, plummeting bond ratings and underfunded school

systems.

The next leader of the House Ways and Means Committee, which writes tax bills, is probably going to be Paul Ryan. Before the election, Ryan made a speech to the Financial Services Roundtable in which he seemed to suggest that if the Republicans won control of the Senate, it would be a message from the American people that it was time to do dynamic scoring on those tax bills. ("I really prefer to call it reality-based scoring.") The current Ways and Means chairman, Dave Camp, is a tragic figure who actually attempted to do tax reform with an ambitious proposal that eliminated some temporary taxes and made the rest permanent. It included a 4 percent reduction in the top tax rate, because no matter how hard Camp struggled, he could not honestly get it lower.

He might just as well have proposed a bill declaring God dead. The committee never even voted on it. John Boehner made fun of it. Camp was the political version of Justin Bieber, without the parties.

After the election, both parties appeared inclined to just extend all the tax cuts for two years while making principled mumbling about reform down the line.

But then the Koch brothers roared into the picture. They feel that it's wrong for the government to give a special benefit to an industry that's one of their competitors. Especially a government that they and their associates devoted nearly \$60 million to getting into office. Politico reported that their representatives have been meeting with Boehner's staff.

And you know, they have a point. If Congress actually wanted to do serious reform, it should get rid of special tax breaks for the wind and solar energy sectors. While, of course, also removing all the tax breaks for drilling oil.

Hehehehe. □

Times Square's Biggest Digital Billboard Is Set to Shine

EMILY STEEL

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In an era when digital screens large and small proliferate but attention is increasingly scarce, some marketers are making a huge bet that one of the biggest displays in the world will captivate audiences. Their gamble: the largest

ket, according to marketing executives. A digital art exhibition by the critically acclaimed Universal Everything studio collective will animate the screen from Tuesday night until Nov. 24, when Google will take over as the exclusive, debut advertiser with a campaign that runs through the New

Both Clear Channel Outdoor and Google declined to comment on the terms of Google's deal. Ad executives said Google snapped up the display as soon as it went on the market for an exclusive, long-term commitment, so the negotiated rate could have been much lower than the \$2.5

About 8 in 10 people in Times Square reported that the signs and the advertisements add to the appeal of the destination, according to a survey of 2,000 respondents in Times Square commissioned by Times Square Alliance and other groups. About half of the respondents reported taking pho-

Vornado Realty Trust built the new screen as part of a redevelopment project for new signs and retail components of the hotel. Vornado says it expects to lease a span of new retail space at the site to about a half dozen companies. It said in August 2012 that it would spend as much as \$140 million on the project. Vornado already owns the retail strip at 1540 Broadway directly across the street leased to the Forever 21 and Disney flagship stores. There, it discovered how important the digital sign is to the retailers. With the new project, Vornado decided to build a mega-sign and deploy the latest LED technology.

Steven Roth, chief executive of Vornado, said that while the attention-grabbing technology that allows for sharp images and innovative displays is important, that technological advantage will not last as other companies adopt similar bells and whistles. The two lasting advantages, he said, are the new display's sheer size and location.

"The signs really are part of the culture, part of the fabric of the excitement of this city," Roth said. "And, by the way, we are in it for the money, and they are an interesting part of our business."

One of the oldest forms of advertising, billboards are attracting new attention as digital displays allow for new levels of real-time interactivity. Marketers increasingly are deploying new social media and mobile components that allow viewers to engage in activities like broadcasting their faces on a billboard or downloading coupons because they walked past an ad.

Billboards previously were arduous to buy, with advertisers forced to broker deals with an array of companies that owned the space. Today, advertising groups are working to automate the buying process. Advertisers can now update digital campaigns on the fly, giving them more flexibility.



The world's largest high-definition digital display lights up for the first time in Times Square in New York, Nov. 13, 2014. Covering an entire city block, the mega-screen will light up Tuesday night with a digital art exhibition by the Universal Everything studio collective.

(Richard Perry/The New York Times)

and most expensive digital billboard in Times Square that will light up Tuesday night.

The new screen stands 8 stories tall and is nearly as long as a football field, spanning the entire block from 45th Street to 46th Street on Broadway - the center of the Times Square "bow tie." Nearly 24 million LED pixels, each containing tiny red, blue and green lights, make up the display, giving it higher resolution than even the best of today's top-of-the-line television sets.

At a going rate of more than \$2.5 million for four weeks, the megascreen ranks as one of the most expensive pieces of outdoor ad real estate on the mar-

Year.

In the flashing, bustling advertising mecca that is Times Square, the screen is the biggest and the only one to cover an entire city block.

"Size matters in Times Square," said Harry Coghlan, president of Clear Channel Outdoor New York, which is selling the ad space. Last week, as he stood on the corner of 46th Street and Broadway watching test images of skiers and fashion models illuminate the new display, tourists turned their heads to look at the sign, their jaws dropping.

"Sometimes it just comes down to wanting to stand out, and it comes down to ego," he said.

million price tag. Rates for Times Square billboards can vary widely, depending on location, size, duration, and screen quality, among other factors, ad executives said.

Each day, more than 300,000 pedestrians are estimated to enter the Times Square "bow tie," where 7th Avenue intersects with Broadway between 42nd and 47th Streets. While New Yorkers generally breeze through, their heads in their phones, the location is a tourist destination, and the billboards are a large part of the attraction. The locale receives even more views when it is broadcast across the world, especially during big events like the New Year's Eve celebration.

tographs of the signs, and 60 percent said they had spent more than five minutes looking at them.

"People go to the Grand Canyon to see the most visually stunning natural canyon in the world. They come to Times Square to see the most digitally striking canyon in the world," said Tim Topkins, president of the Times Square Alliance.

The new sign, at 1535 Broadway, hangs on the Marriott Marquis hotel. Visitors might remember the destination as the home to the giant Kodak sign that long beamed from the center of the building, topped by a curved display and flanked by two rectangular displays.